

FBI

DAILY REPORT

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MCCOMIE'S CANDIDACY FOR OAS CHIEF ANNOUNCED

FL162220 Bridgetown CANA in English 2039 GMT 16 Nov 83

[Text] Washington, Nov 16, CANA -- Barbados today formally announced the candidacy of Valerie T. McComie, assistant secretary general of the Organisation of American States (OAS), for the post of secretary general of the hemispheric body.

Foreign Minister Louis Tull made the announcement at a news conference here attended by the Foreign Minister of the Bahamas, Paul Adderley, and the Jamaican Junior Foreign Minister Neville Callimore.

Tull said Barbados' record of achievement within the OAS was undoubtedly linked to the "outstanding performance" of McComie, who served as the first permanent representative of Barbados to the OAS from 1968 to 1974.

"Ambassador McComie's commitment to the development of the inter-American system is well-documented in the records of this organisation and throughout Latin America and the Caribbean," the Barbados foreign minister said.

Tull added: "His election in 1979 to the post of assistant secretary general was an event of historical importance to the people of Barbados and the Caribbean since it marked for the first time that a citizen of one of the smallest and newer member-states of the organization had been elected to such an important position in this highly esteemed regional body."

Tull praised outgoing OAS Secretary General General Alejandro Orfila as a "great Latin American."

"We in the Caribbean shall not forget that during his tenure many of our island states moved from a colonial status to independence and to accession to the membership of the Organisation of American States. We remain confident that his legacy will endure," he said.

Orfila, a veteran Argentine diplomat, announced his intention to resign his post at the opening session of the OAS General Assembly Monday.

When asked about the implications of Barbados' participation in the recent invasion of Grenada on McComie's candidacy, Tull replied: We do not believe that the Government of Barbados will be the chief executive of the organisation and that Val McComie, if elected, will be the servant of all the member-states of the organisation and will not be a mere tool of the Government of Barbados."

Tull indicated his belief that all Caribbean states will support the candidacy of McComie to the highest post in the OAS General Secretariat.

PAZ BARNICA ADDRESSES OAS OPENING SESSION

PA152120 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Speech by Honduran Foreign Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica at the opening session of the 13th OAS General Assembly in Washington, D.C., on 14 November -- recorded]

[Excerpts] This assembly is being held under significant and exceptional circumstances. History, opportunity, controversies, frustrations, and expectations are all present in Latin American relations.

Confusion, the forerunner of chaos, has reached such alarming levels that cohesive regionalism seems to have been replaced by isolation and division. While some are kept at bay, there is talk about the destruction of others in an era when international organizations must provide the framework for deliberations without ties and dialogue for understanding. It is an era when integration and pluralism should guide the international behavior of states.

It is unacceptable and even insulting that international commitments made at this forum continue to be violated. It is unacceptable that the promises made under the aegis of the Inter-American principles continue to be ignored, with the acquiescence and tolerance of those who endorsed them. This shows that the OAS doesn't have updated mechanisms to successfully face the complex conflicts of our day and that, consequently, it must regain its prestige with the help of all the member states.

This organization must be well-informed and must play a key role in all efforts to ward off the threats against peace and hemispheric security so that it can actively participate in the search for a future characterized by cooperation and peaceful coexistence on this continent.

I want to highlight a paradoxical but enlightening fact that allows us to sow hope where there was despair. The OAS stated its support for the Republic of Argentina in its claim of sovereignty with the understanding that the use of force must not prevail in international relations. Interests that went beyond hemispheric solidarity caused a loss of faith and trust in the effectiveness of this organization during the war in the South Atlantic.

Now, through gradual steps, that country has given a wise example by restoring faith and trust in the democratic system, which is one of the foundations that the peoples of this continent seek in order to realize the purposes of the OAS.

Let this same faith and trust reappear in our states so that with a humanitarian spirit, political willingness, and a clear vision of the future, we will promote fruitful achievement for peace, democracy, security, and cooperation for economic and social development. With this conviction, I welcome you, Messrs Foreign Ministers and delegates.

BAHAMAS REJECTS SCOON'S AUTHORITY AT OAS

FL161713 Bridgetown CANA in English 1643 GMT 16 Nov 83

[Text] Washington, Nov 16 (CANA) -- The Bahamas said here today it rejected the constitutional authority assumed by Grenada's Governor-General Sir Paul Scoon, in the aftermath of last month's U.S.-led military intervention on the former leftist-ruled Caribbean island.

Foreign Minister Paul Adderley, in an address to the current General Assembly of the Organisation of American States (OAS), said the Bahamas could not accept "the legal aberrations" invoked to give credibility to the new government in St George's, which, he said, has no constitutional legitimacy. "The occupying forces in Grenada have made possible and are presently enforcing by the authority of their arms a one man proxy executive authority based on an unprecedented constitutional convolutions," Adderley said.

Following the October 25 invasion of Grenada by American and Caribbean forces to crush a military junta that had seized power in a bloody coup six days earlier, Sir Paul emerged as the sole constitutional authority on the island as the leaders of the ousted government, including Prime Minister Maurice Bishop, had been killed in the Army takeover.

On the basis of his authority, the Governor-General has appointed an interim administration which will run Grenada until general elections, slated for next year, are held.

The Bahamian foreign minister called for the prompt withdrawal of all foreign forces from Grenada and said that "only those civil authorities who understand best the application of common law and know what habeas corpus means (should) remain to assist the de facto government of Grenada in a speedy return to constitutional government." Adderly said that unless there is greater acceptance of the ideological plurality of the Caribbean region, including both island and mainland states, the area will be plagued by military conflict, international friction, and political instability.

Criticising what he said was the imposition of the East-West conflict in the Caribbean Basin, he declared: "Superpowers feed us unrelentingly with a morality of physical confrontation, and our hope for peace and tranquility is balanced on the scales of nuclear parity and deterrence...."

"In such circumstances, it is patently apparent that the maintenance of a parliamentary form of democracy with the attendant fundamental rights and freedoms can be a complex and difficult task."

The Bahamas, a member of the 13-nation Caribbean Community (Caricom), like Grenada, opposed military intervention in the island when heads of government met in Trinidad and Tobago on October 22 to discuss the bloody army takeover three days earlier.

BERNARDO SEPULVEDA NOTES 'INEFFICIENCY' OF OAS

FL162130 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0420 GMT 16 Nov 83

[By Trinidad Alessio]

[Excerpt] Washington, 15 Nov (NOTIMEX) -- The call issued today at the Organization of American States (OAS) by Mexican Foreign Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda Amor for the Grenada case not to constitute a precedent was considered a clear example of the independence of Mexican foreign policy.

Delegates to the 13th assembly of the OAS noted that the most important statement of the Mexican foreign secretary was his direct reference to the Malvinas war, a matter on which the regional organization was divided due to U.S. support for the British position.

Sepulveda also stated that we should recognize that the OAS has not always satisfied Latin American aspirations. In the face of the current political-economic crisis, the legitimacy of the organization demands its redefinition and its effective contribution to the maintenance of international peace and security. He added that such fortification assumes the full validity of ideological pluralism and the recognition that an international community comprises various degrees of development and multiple forms of political, economic, and social organization.

The Mexican foreign secretary not only defined the essential problem of the Central American crisis, but he also touched on a decisive point of this general assembly: the inefficiency of the OAS.

He stated that when Alejandro Orfila, secretary general of the OAS, unexpectedly presented his resignation, he lamented the organization's incapacity to face these times, in which delays and waiting are inappropriate, and the fact that the United States does not always fully consider what it could gain by having an intelligent continental alliance.

The Mexican foreign secretary also recalled that in the absence of political will the reforms proposed to the OAS Charter (10 years ago) were not approved, including the one regarding ideological pluralism, and that the proposed inter-American treaty on the subject of collective economic security and cooperation for development was abandoned. He added that the reforms to the Inter-American Reciprocal Assistance Treaty have not come into force.

An observer pointed out that praiseworthy as it is, a proposal of this type will not find an echo at the OAS, where renovation processes move slowly and where it takes 15 years for the organization to progress from applauding the invasion of the Dominican Republic to simply remaining silent for the invasion of Grenada.

He added that the General Assembly will not make an official statement on Grenada or on the report presented by the Contadora Group, whose measures for negotiations to achieve peace in Central America formed an important part of Sepulveda's speech.

CHILEAN MINISTER EXPRESSES CONCERN OVER 'CRISIS'

PY160230 Paris AFP in Spanish 0121 GMT 14 Nov 83

[Text] Washington, 14 Nov (AFP) -- Today Chile voiced its concern over what it termed as the deep-rooted crisis in the inter-American system and made an appeal to start a decade of peace and cooperation with the purpose of overcoming the controversies in the American Continent by 1992, when the 500th anniversary of the continent's discovery is celebrated.

In addressing the OAS General Assembly, which started its 13th period of ordinary sessions in Washington today, Chilean Foreign Minister Miguel Schweitzer stressed the difference between the northern Saxon America, which has a single voice and is the biggest power in the world, and the divided Latin America and Caribbean, which has 29 governments that have been incapable of joining their will with the purpose of sharing history.

Schweitzer made a plea to take advantage of the decade preceding the 500th anniversary of America's discovery so that the continent may project an image that will be in keeping with Liberator Simon Bolivar's dream of unity.

He stated that the inter-American system is experiencing a deep-rooted crisis which is marked by the generalized feeling that its bodies have become ineffective.

Schweitzer stated, however, that neither the institutions nor mechanisms of the system are responsible, since it is the governments' responsibility for not having had the determination to make them function in tune with modern times. Schweitzer stated that the consolidation of peace should be the ultimate goal that would dignify and guarantee security for the men and women of America, and within that context he pointed out that the peaceful solution of controversies is essential and urgent at this crucial moment.

In referring to the situation in Central America, he pointed out that its expansion threatens the hemisphere's peace and security and voiced his hopes that the Contadora Group, formed by Mexico, Venezuela, Colombia, and Panama, will be successful in its peace efforts.

Regarding the military intervention of Grenada, he stated that Chile was aware of the seriousness of the increasing Soviet-Cuban infiltration which represented a definite threat to the eastern Caribbean countries as well as to the entire continent.

However, Schweitzer recalled that traditionally Chile has always rejected the use of force in international relations and considers respect for the principle of nonintervention as fundamental. Therefore, it deplores the fact that the mechanisms to guarantee peace and security currently in force in our regional organization were not used.

Schweitzer noted the decline in inter-American cooperation in the socioeconomic field and the virtual lack of ties -- in those fields -- between the United States and the rest of the continent.

According to the foreign minister, the economic dialogue with the United States has been replaced by an atmosphere of confrontations. He pointed out that the United States does not realize the effects which its dominating economy has on the developing countries.

However, he pointed out that during the past 2 months there have been signs of improvement in the socioeconomic cooperation in the region as well as encouraging signs in the dialogue with Washington at the meeting to discuss financial and foreign debt issues held in Caracas and the Inter-American Economic and Social Council meeting held in Asuncion.

He pointed out that finally, after many years, signs of a common desire to reach an understanding as well as points of agreement and guidelines for action appeared during those meetings.

The Chilean minister pointed out the need for this understanding in view of the economic crisis affecting the international economy and the serious debt and financial problems which our nations are enduring. In these fields, he asserted, the Latin American countries are making sacrifices to adjust their economies and meet their commitments, but those efforts will be useless if they are not accompanied by similar efforts by the industrialized nations.

He pointed out that it is wrong that the debtor countries should shoulder all the responsibility of the economic readjustment without the creditor countries accepting their share. Moreover, he ended, this is a serious political mistake because the lack of a desire to share responsibilities will lead to a serious social outburst that will seriously affect the stability of the entire region.

PANAMA'S OYDEN ORTEGA ADDRESSES OAS MEETING

PA162046 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 16 Nov 83 pp 1-A, 8-A

[Text] Foreign Minister Oyden Ortega has said that the decision to speed up the mechanisms to open paths to the real and immediate development and integration that will free Latin America from the scourges of unemployment, economic dependence, burdensome foreign debts, technological obsolescence, and all those factors which prevent our peoples' economic and social development, cannot be delayed.

Foreign Minister Ortega made this appeal in a speech delivered yesterday at the OAS General Assembly, during its 13th ordinary session, which opened on Monday, 13 November.

In his speech, Ortega said that "Panama is not an island in space, but a bridge where the world's paths cross. Because of our country's historical development, and its geographical characteristics, it is necessary to the peace, security, and development of other nations that we remain truly independent, free of alignments with any foreign power, or a power alien to our national interests.

Ortega added that "in a world in crisis, a world plagued by injustices and dangers, we would rather be a place for holding dialogue and reaching political agreements than one of confrontation between conflicting parties."

Commenting on the processes that led to the emergence of the Contadora Group initiative, Foreign Minister Ortega said that "our country, which, through negotiations with the United States, obtained recognition of its fundamental sovereign rights over the Panama Canal, established the precedent that even the most difficult controversies among states can be resolved through negotiation. This development established a more just relationship between our two countries and paved the way for negotiated solutions."

According to Ortega, "our participation in the Latin American peace initiative process furthered by the Contadora Group is based on these principles. This effort is being made to prevent a generalized war in Central America and to sponsor formulas leading to a peaceful solution of the regional problems by the Central American countries themselves. The Contadora Group's effort is in an advanced state of political negotiation."

Commenting further on the peace efforts, he said that "after the Cancun summit meeting, at which the presidents of Colombia, Mexico, Venezuela, and Panama issued the Cancun Declaration on Peace in Central America, which includes the general guidelines of a peace and development program for the area, the governments of Costa Rica, Honduras, Guatemala, El Salvador, and Nicaragua expressed their firm determination to reach agreements that will reestablish the basis for peaceful coexistence, cooperation, and development."

Asserting that substantial advances have been made in the diplomatic area, Foreign Minister Ortega stressed that "situations which threaten to foil this important peace effort are currently being created. For this reason the Contadora Group foreign ministers have decided to step up the diplomatic efforts in order to keep escalation of military activities from foiling the progress made. Within the next few days we will be holding joint meetings with the Central American foreign ministers in order to encourage their governments to negotiate and agree upon the pertinent legal instruments to develop the commitments established in the Document of Objectives."

Stressing the peace efforts, Ortega asserted: "Peace, coexistence, and Central American security currently depend on the firm political determination of the Governments of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala, and Nicaragua -- as well as that of the other countries with ties and interests in the area -- to agree to take actions that will effectively resolve the crisis. It is also up to the Latin American community and the rest of the world to exert all their political influence to ward off the danger of war on the Central American isthmus. The valuable contribution that the member-states of this organization effectively make to this vital peace effort will contribute to the success of our efforts and to the strengthening of the inter-American system."

Referring to his country's foreign policy, Foreign Minister Ortega said: "It is with legitimate pride that Panama projects its earnest desire for peace and for the permanent respect of human rights, and expresses its concern at the deterioration of the human rights situation in the hemisphere. We regard human rights as universal values, and respect for them is a collective responsibility within the hemispheric framework."

Finally, he said that "as a Bolivarian nation, Panama must assert its total repudiation of any action intended to prevent or undermine the peoples' right to self-determination, to violate the principle of nonintervention in a country's domestic affairs, or to disregard the obligation of respecting the sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity of all nations."

UCR DESIGNATES CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES LEADERSHIP

PY162323 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0850 GMT 16 Nov 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 16 Nov (TELAM) -- The commission of 24 deputies elected by the UCR [Radical Civic Union] early this morning decided to designate as president of the future Chamber of Deputies UCR leader Juan Carlos Pugliese from Buenos Aires Province, and as leader of the UCR bloc Cesar Jarolasky from Entre Rios Province. The meeting to make these designations was held in the Pedro Dualde Hall of the UCR national committee offices. Roberto Pascuat Silva from Santa Fe Province was designated first vice president of the Chamber of Deputies and the post of second vice president was left vacant.

In addition to Jarolasky as president, Marcelo Strubin (Buenos Aires city), Jorge Stokiner (Cordoba Province), and Cleto Raubel (Misiones Province) were chosen as first, second, and third vice presidents, respectively, to lead the UCR bloc.

The following persons were designated as secretaries: Alberto Maglietì (Formosa Province), Alfredo Mosso (Mendoza Province), Ricardo Daute (Salta Province), Prospero Nieves (Jujuy Province), Salvador Matus (Rio Negro Province), Ricardo Colombo (San Juan Province), Jose Fulque (Catamarca Province), and Francisco Gimenez (Santiago del Estero Province). As soon as Matus learned of his designation, he turned it down, saying that the bloc will have to decide on his situation.

Santiago Lopez (Chubut Province) was designated treasurer and Julio Bulacio (Tucuman Province) was designated deputy treasurer.

JUSTICIALIST PARTY ESTABLISHES FEDERAL COUNCIL

PY151500 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0025 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 14 Nov (NA) -- The Justicialist Party Federal Council was "officially and organically" established tonight. It is made up of two representatives from each province, with the exception of La Rioja and Jujuy Provinces which did not attend the meeting.

This was reported during a press conference by Carlos Arturo Juarez, second vice president of the national council, who announced that the Federal Council "will act in conjunction with the National Council."

The Federal Council is made up of Mario Ruben Gonzalez (Federal Capital); Herminio Iglesias, Carlos Romero (Buenos Aires); Raul Bercovich Rodriguez (Cordoba); Deolindo Bittel (Chaco); Dardo Blanc (Entre Rios); Raul Carignano and Luis Chessi (Santa Fe).

Other members are Jose Carlos Motta, Pedro Leon Lucerto (Mendoza); Arturo Puricelli, Jose Luis Banos (Santa Cruz); Carlos Martinez Torres, Daniel Martinez (Tierra del Fuego); Cesar Gioja, Jose Ubaldo Montano (San Juan); Oscar Massei, Amilcar Sanchez (Neuquen); Ruben Hugo Marin, Carlos Aragonés (La Pampa); Alberto Rodriguez Saa, Oscar Brito (San Luis); and Vicente Goga and Floro Bogado (Formosa).

Other Provinces are represented by: Mario Franco, Nazareno Fabiani (Rio Negro); Felipe Escribano, Hebe Cornhuelo Blanco (Chubut); Ramon Saadi (Catamarca); Julio Humda (Misiones); Carlos Bravo Herrera (Salta); Julio Romero, Humberto Romero (Corrientes); Carlos Juarez and Luis Salim (Santiago del Estero).

However since temporary representatives were appointed for the Federal Capital and the Provinces of Cordoba, Chaco, Entre Rios, Catamarca, and Salta, these provinces must appoint their respective permanent and alternate representatives at a later date.

ALFONSIN MEETS WITH LABOR LEADER, BRAZILIAN ENVOY

PY160157 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1556 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 15 Nov (TELAM) -- President-elect Raul Alfonsin does not favor the break up of the General Labor Confederation [CGT], according to a statement made by the head of the National Movement for Unionist Renewal, Jose Biaforte, after talking with the future chief of state at the hotel where he has been staying since yesterday.

Biaforte said that he had expressed his concern to Alfonsin over newspaper reports about the alleged break up, but that Alfonsin had denied saying this although he did stress that the government will not be opposed to the creation of internal factions representing the various lines of thought among workers.

The Brazilian ambassador to Argentina, Carlos Duarte da Rocha, arrived at the hotel to express his government's satisfaction at the return of democracy to our country. The Brazilian ambassador also stressed the good relations between Argentina and Brazil, as well as his country's constant and unconditional support for Argentina on all aspects of the Malvinas issue.

LEADERS SAYS CGT WILL NOT DESTABILIZE GOVERNMENT

PY150303 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1807 GMT 14 Nov 83

[Text] Salta, 14 Nov (DYN) -- Saul Ubaldini, the secretary general of the CGT-RA [General Confederation of Labor of the Argentine Republic] has said that "the new general confederation of labor will defend democracy." He explained that he was misinterpreted when he referred to the right to strike in defense of workers and pointed out that the labor confederation "will not seek to destabilize" the constitutional government.

President-elect Raul Alfonsin had referred to a statement that Ubaldini made in Corrientes as a "macabre joke," although he noted that anyone can say whatever he wants in a democracy.

Ubaldini reiterated in the Salta capital that "what I said is that we will never give up our struggle in defense of the rights of workers and that we are for democracy." He said that he was "misinterpreted."

He added that the labor confederation will wait to see what the first measures instituted by the Radical government and the projects it implements immediately are. "We will then express our opinions. We will not seek to destabilize the government, but we will defend our rights," he said.

"We are willing to build brick by brick the great Argentina that the people wish for," Ubaldini said. He added that "it is necessary to understand that we must live in democracy, and that there must be neither winners nor losers."

INTERIOR MINISTER-DESIGNATE TROCCOLI INTERVIEWED

Outlines Future Plans

PY101125 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1838 GMT 9 Nov 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 9 Nov (NA) -- Antonio Troccoli, the interior minister-designate, today reported that the constitutional government will immediately abolish the law on repression of terrorism that was approved by the military regime; that it will allow exiles to return; and that it will abolish the institutional acts that have suspended the rights of some citizens. He added that the objective of the Radical government will be "to preserve the order and security of all Argentines."

Troccoli said he had no information either on the presence of subversive elements in Argentina or on activities that they may be undertaking, as a former Buenos Aires police chief, General Ramon Camps, recently reported. "We will calmly, seriously, impartially, and with the law in one hand and justice in the other, address the problem of subversion, without fueling hysteria," Troccoli said in an exclusive interview granted to NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS.

He also announced that the law on repression of terrorism that was approved by the military regime will be abolished. However, he said that it will be replaced by a democratic legal instrument "that will protect the constitutional regime from all forms of violence."

"That legal instrument will be approved in keeping with constitutional principles, in a system in which justice will play an independent and meaningful role, passing judgment on offenses and crimes," he stressed.

He also said that the institutional acts that have suspended the rights of several citizens will expire "at the very moment the constitutional government is installed, because they are illegal instruments adopted by de facto regimes."

Troccoli also noted that all exiles will be allowed to return, because "we will be returning to a state of law and there will be neither restrictions nor proscriptions other than those imposed by justice."

He reported that he is holding informal meetings with the future provincial governors to whom he will deliver a message from Raul Alfonsin, the president-elect. "I will tell the governors on behalf of the president-elect that the executive branch will carefully defend provincial autonomy, that it will preserve the federal system, and that it will extend as much aid as possible to the provinces, especially to those that do not have much, whatever the political stripe of their governors," he stressed.

Troccoli confirmed that the future government will sponsor the creation of a highly trained special police force that will, "in the first place, take preventive action against terrorism and subversion and, as a last resort, engage in repression." He gave assurances that this special force will be under the jurisdiction of the federal police, which will in turn be directed by a police officer.

Plans New Image

PY112127 Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 9 Nov 83 p 4

[Interview with Interior Minister-designate Antonio Troccoli by CLARIN on 8 November -- place not given]

[Text] [Question] What will President Raul Alfonsin's first order be after he assumes the presidency?

[Answer] After assuming the presidency, the president-elect intends to summon the National Congress for extraordinary sessions to debate and approve measures drawn up by the executive branch that are related to political, economic, and social issues as well as to reforms in the government structure.

[Question] Does this mean that President Alfonsin is determined to implement his government's main initiatives right from the beginning?

[Answer] That is correct, the president-elect wants congress to start meeting immediately in order to rule on urgent projects, such as the national budget.

[Question] Let us talk about the Interior Ministry which you will head. What will be the new image of that ministry?

[Answer] The Interior Ministry must be turned into an instrument to safeguard freedom so that society may have ample room to fully develop and exploit the high quality of the human being. In the second place, it has to safeguard order and security so that the freedom of the nation may be effective. In the third place, it must serve as the true representative of federalism so that it may act as the appropriate intermediary for the provinces and support and promote their legitimate rights without any type of discrimination. The government will give the provincial authorities respect and the necessary support, regardless of their political leanings.

[Question] Will there be any reorganization or purge of the police forces?

[Answer] The federal police will be run by the police and its duty exclusively will be to prevent crimes. Any repression that the police may recommend will be controlled by the judicial branch. This will require an in-depth reorganization, but basically its task will be to closely watch the government in order to prevent abuses and irregularities.

[Question] Would this refer to the possible practice of torture?

[Answer] In this regard the executive branch, judicial control, and congressional intervention will serve as parameters to guide the functional purpose of the security forces. In sum, the reorganization of the security forces in order to dismantle the repressive apparatus will be a priority goal.

[Question] Will the numerous intelligence services be disbanded?

[Answer] The intelligence services are instruments that must be under the direct supervision of the president of the republic. Their mission must be strictly military.

[Question] Taking into account your good relations with Peronist political leaders and with other parties, will coexistence be fostered by your ministry?

[Answer] We will try to implement democratic coexistence to facilitate the strengthening of the constitutional system and the effectiveness of the national reconstruction program.

[Question] Will the democratic government abolish the amnesty law?

[Answer] The party has said that before. One of the first things that will be done is to abolish this unconstitutional law.

[Question] Regarding abuses committed during the war against subversion, the Radical Civic Union has a definite position. Will the government take any political action against the persons who are mainly responsible for those abuses?

[Answer] The courts will be in charge of investigating, judging, and punishing those found responsible for the abuses.

[Question] In case of new subversive outbreaks, how will they be dealt with?

[Answer] As far as the defense of democracy against terrorism is concerned, it must be averted and, if necessary, repressed by a highly trained police corps which will act with the law on the one hand and the intervention of the courts on the other.

NEW PUBLIC HEALTH MINISTER DISCUSSES POLICY

PY102213 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 10 Nov 83 p 11

[Text] (NA) -- Hospitals will charge no more fees and the unemployed will still benefit from medical services, Public Health and Social Action Minister-elect Aldo Neri announced yesterday as two of the top-priority measures to be enforced as he is placed in office on December 10.

Neri confirmed that Rodolfo O'Reilly is to be sports under-secretary, and also said labour unions would continue to participate in the running of the social services, but the government intended to set guidelines to ensure the system would follow a policy which met the health requirements of the entire population. Neri stressed that there was an urgent need to eliminate fees which patients had to pay at public hospitals throughout the country. He said payment of these fees were the responsibility of the respective social services to which workers were affiliated. "These services have to pay the hospital or private doctors when the need arises," Neri said.

He also said the problem of obtaining cheap medicines was very acute and the government intended to discuss the matter with industrialists and pharmacists in a bid to find a prompt solution. Neri was of the opinion that there were a number of basic medicines used in large quantities by people all over the country and these had to come down in price. He did not advocate a general reduction of prices, but believed a certain number could be made more easily available to the general public and members of social services.

HAVANA CITES MINISTERS-DESIGNATE ON PLANS

PA120154 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 10 Nov 83

[Text] Several ministers of the new civilian government in Argentina have outlined the domestic and foreign policy that will be followed by President-elect Raul Alfonsin.

The future foreign minister, Dante Caputo, has stressed that Argentina will oppose any U.S. intervention in Central America. He said that relations between Buenos Aires and Washington should be neither one-sided nor dependent.

Antonio Troccoli, who will assume the post of interior minister, has said that the new government's first act will be to repeal the military regime's statute outlawing so-called terrorist activities. Political exiles will be permitted to return to the country.

Troccoli added that the law used by the military government to strip several citizens of their political rights will also be repealed.

Aldo Neri, minister of public health and social security, declared that direct taxes for public health services will be phased out, and that the government will promote the sale of low-cost medicines to the poorer sectors.

CENTRAL BANK PRESIDENT-DESIGNATE INTERVIEWED

PY151120 Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 13 Nov 83 p 18

["Text" of interview granted to CLARIN by Enrique Garcia Vazquez, Central Bank president-designate, in Buenos Aires; no date given]

[Excerpts] [Question] What measures will you adopt to reorganize a deteriorated financial market, one with no credit?

[Answer] All the measures that tend to simplify matters, because with the numerous modifications which were made and the patches applied to it, we ended up with a quite complicated and not too efficient system. Good channels have to be created so that savings can flow smoothly toward priority investments.

[Question] What channels do you have in mind?

[Answer] Those represented by the appropriate, efficient financial institutions. In the financial area, this is our most important objective: To create, through the financial institutions, smooth channels for the flow of savings. This will make it possible for savings to have liquidity. Whenever the saver makes direct investments, the economy loses liquid savings, the economy runs low on money, and there are not enough resources for lending. This is what is happening now.

[Question] Which rules do you intend to use to dissuade savers from investing their resources for less than 30 days?

[Answer] Long-term savings should be encouraged. The 7-day deposit is not savings, but money. All the current systems to attract savings should be maintained, and new systems should be created.

[Question] What will the interest rates be?

[Answer] As a general rule, the interest rate for the saver should be about neutral. It has been such in all industrialized countries for the last 10 or 20 years. Loans have to have a slightly positive interest rate. Fundamentally, the spread between the two should be as narrow as possible.

[Question] Why not negative rates?

[Answer] Negative rates can be applied as an exception to the rule. Whenever they are applied in general, they represent a very high subsidy which someone is paying. On the other hand, if the interest rates are too high, they stifle investments. On this we would try to have a just midpoint. Subsidy is not a bad word. Negative interest rates mean subsidies which to be accepted must be explained as to why and how much they mean in pesos. The ideal would be to include subsidies in the budgets.

[Question] How do you plan to revamp the financial system, with money or with deadlines?

[Answer] We are evaluating the present situation, which is very complex. The basic idea is not to create drastic situations. We think that the fight we will wage against inflation should be coupled with a recovery. Increased activity has to go hand in hand with an improvement in the position of troubled enterprises. Deadlines cannot be imposed on those enterprises to collect their obligations, because the idea is that the recovery should make it possible for those enterprises to pay their obligations. Here is the combination: Fight inflation, seek moderate production increases, and allow time for enterprises to meet their obligations.

[Question] Are you going to set up a table to regulate inflation, interest rates, the dollar exchange?

[Answer] I am not much in favor of tables, because they have the opposite effect. I believe in setting objectives to be attained over longer periods.

[Question] Would it be naive to ask you, with still a month before you assume office, if you plan to devalue the peso?

[Answer] No, because our policy is to defend the Argentine currency, and large devaluations only serve to weaken it. The experiences of recent years show that devaluations feed upon themselves, thus creating an unending circle where confidence in the peso was destroyed and currency exchange speculation was encouraged. In this area, we will follow the general procedure of adjusting the exchange rate to the internal inflation minus the external inflation.

[Question] What will you do with credit indexation and with financing of consumption?

[Answer] Indexation will fade away until it disappears completely as inflation declines. As for credit, priority at this time must be given to factors that can make the economy more dynamic, so that the country can move ahead.

[Question] What do you plan to do with deposits in dollars?

[Answer] The existing deposit systems will be kept, and other systems will be created.

[Question] Does that mean that once the 2-month suspension for the return of foreign exchange is over, no more freezes or any other measures to discourage the foreign exchange flow will be applied?

[Answer] Once the emergency situation has been overcome, taking into account the possibilities of our trade balance in the coming months, we believe that there will be no difficulty in meeting those obligations. On the contrary, our idea is to create some system to attract the extraordinary amount of savings that is now abroad. This will make it possible to overcome the problems in our external sector more rapidly.

COMMUNIST LEADER VIEWS ELECTION RESULTS

AU091925 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian 7 Nov 83 p 4

[Text] Athos Fava, Argentine Communist Party [PCA] secretary general, received Sibilia Dimova, RABOTNICHESKO DELO special correspondent, in Buenos Aires, only a few days following the elections at a time when the first analyses and evaluations of Argentina's future development were being made.

[Dimova] Comrade Fava, many observers did not expect the Radical Civic Union to obtain as many votes in the elections as it did. In your opinion, what are the reasons for these final results?

[Fava] The election victory was primarily due to the existing disagreement with the military dictatorship and to the struggle against this regime, a struggle in which the working class played a leading role.

The Radical Civic Union, headed by Raul Alfonsin, skillfully took advantage of the Argentine people's anti-dictatorial feelings, particularly in their use of the mass media. The Radicals also availed themselves of their greater financial resources and of the necessary professional skill required for a successful election campaign. The campaign was aimed at the so-called "middle class strata," including the lower-middle class, the bourgeoisie, the white collar workers, and the civil servants. These strata are as large as the working class in Argentina. The Radicals succeeded in presenting a qualitatively new and nicely packaged product: the hope for the country's peaceful and stable development and for a final interruption in the vicious cycle of military dictatorships. Peronism was unable to create such an image for itself. Various factions within the Peronist party even gave the impression of intolerance and disrespect for the remaining political parties, an impression of being incapable of securing political stability, which is an absolute necessity for every Argentine. Such shortcomings were cunningly exploited by the mass media, leading to an isolation of the working class versus the middle classes, and even to a confrontation between these two strata. Under these conditions of strong polarization, all the right-wing parties relied on Alfonsin. Even those who had openly supported the military regime in the past sided with the Radical Civic Union. They did not succeed in building up their own influential candidate and, therefore, they voted for the leader of the Radicals. Raul Alfonsin was not the candidate of reaction and imperialism, but he was supported by these forces.

[Dimova] How can you describe the effect of this polarization as a result of the elections?

[Fava] In the process of political development during which the masses will expand their struggle for the implementation of their demands and for the fulfillment of the program submitted by the Radicals, two opposite forces will exert pressure on the government. On the one hand, the common working people, not only those workers mostly influenced by Peronism, but all others who voted for Alfonsin, will demand the implementation of the government's program within the framework of a democratic alternative. On the other hand, the right-wing forces in alliance with the multinational monopolies, will put pressure on the government. They will insist on a policy favorable to imperialist interests. This can also lead to political stability, but one opposed to that for which the workers are striving. This would mean a stabilization of Argentina's dependence, from which it must free itself in order to enjoy a truly democratic development.

[Dimova] How does the PCA evaluate its participation in the elections?

[Fava] In view of the absolute polarization between the Radical Civic Union and the Peronist party, we do not, as a matter of principle, attach great importance to the election results expressed in figures. Rather, we attach importance to the future prospects of our work within the ranks of the working class. These are the prospects of our work within the ranks of the working class. These are the prospects mapped out after defeat of the military dictatorship. In this respect, we have achieved considerable results. The joint struggle together with the Peronist masses in defending the worker's interests is one of these results. This process is developing with particular intensity today, following the elections, and the conditions of this development are much more favorable than they ever were in the past.

As to the election results themselves, I must immediately add that we had expected to obtain twice as many votes as we actually received. (RABOTNICHESKO DELO editorial note: The Communist Party supported the Peronist presidential candidate during the elections and presented its own candidates for parliament and for local administrative organs.)

We are well aware of the fact that we must not shift the responsibility to the existence of a great polarization. This was merely one of numerous factors. It is still too early to make generalized conclusions -- we are still analyzing the problem in our lower echelon organizations -- but according to us, the party policy of voting for Luder as the presidential candidate was not sufficiently well explained to the voters.

Rather, our party's election tactics were linked to the prospect of mutual action under the new conditions, and in the long-term, these tactics were certainly correct. The results up to now show that relations with the Peronist workers will be developed and strengthened. Thus, we will be able to take a considerable step forward in the entire workers' movement, taking into account the fact that the Peronist workers in factories and plants are constantly raising their class consciousness.

[Dimova] Comrade Fava, which are the specific methods of defending the interests of the workers masses and of guaranteeing the democratic process as a whole?

[Fava] The specific method is to develop and assert an agreement for joint efforts in achieving democratic stability in our country. The Argentine rightwing accuses the workers movement of allegedly provoking instability and military coups. This is absolutely untrue. Political destabilization and political crimes have always been provoked by interests connected with imperialism. The workers class is struggling for higher wages and for employment. This is not destabilization; on the contrary, it is the only method of strengthening democracy. This is why we insist that the Radical Civic Union should implement its election promises and agree to joint efforts. This, however, by no means implies that the working class should renounce its demands, because a true political stability is impossible without a progressive social policy.

PALADINO HELD IN CUSTODY IN TRIPLE A CASE

PY152241 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 2000 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] Federal Judge Jorge Nicasio Dibur has ruled that General Otto Paladino, manager of the Magister Security Agency, be held in preventive custody.

Judge Dibur has ruled that the defendant is to be held without bail on charges of unlawful association for criminal purposes. Paladino's assets worth 500,000 Argentine pesos have been attached.

Judge Dibur also issued a warrant for the arrest of Commander Rodolfo Schillici Moreno, owner of the (Deneb) detective agency located across the street from the Navy's Mechanics School, for the illegal possession of weapons.

Lastly, Judge Dibur ruled that Ruben Gonzalez Figueredo be held in preventive custody also. He too is charged with the illegal possession of weapons.

These rulings were handed down in connection with the so-called Triple A case investigations into the activities of a gang led by Anibal Cordon and the kidnapping of Guillermo Patricio Kelly.

Gen Paladino was taken to the court from the Army's I Corps located in Palermo, where he was being held at the disposal of Judge Dibur while awaiting the rulings.

LABOR MINISTER RESIGNS; 'CABINET CRISIS' DENIED

PY151445 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] It has been learned that Labor and Labor Development Minister Ramiro Barrenechea has resigned to attend to his obligations in Congress. Yesterday Barrenechea reiterated to Panamericana that if his party, the pro-Soviet Communist Party of Bolivia [PCB], decided that he should resign, he would do so.

When he was asked about rumors of his resignation, the minister said: "I am carrying out my normal duties and I do not know where the rumors came from." However, it was learned in the last few hours that he had resigned. According to the morning press, last night Ramiro Barrenechea said farewell to his colleagues of the economic team stating: By orders from my party I must return to the Chamber of Deputies. This is why I am here to say farewell to you, my respected colleagues, because I must submit my resignation.

This is the first crisis of the cabinet sworn in 4 months ago, although some spokesman of the PCB and the Nationalist Revolutionary Movement of the Left indicated that the resignation was agreed upon by the leaders of the two parties. According to these spokesmen this resignation is not a ministerial crisis.

SILES INSTALLS NEW LABOR MINISTER GREBE

PY161146 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 16 Nov 83

[Excerpts] The government crisis set off by the departure of Labor Minister Ramiro Barrenechea, a member of the pro-Soviet Bolivian Communist party, has been weathered with the appointment of Horst Grebe, also a member of the Bolivian Communist Party, as new labor minister.

During a ceremony held in the Mirror Hall at the Government House, President Hernan Siles Zuazo installed the new labor minister.

Barrenechea submitted his irrevocable resignation this afternoon in order to resume his functions as one of the officers of the Chamber of Deputies.

BUSINESSMEN SCORE CURRENT ECONOMIC POLICY

PY162340 La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 13 Nov 83 p 1, 17

[Text] The Bolivian Confederation of Private Businessmen has stated in a communique that the Bolivian economy has been set back 30 years. The confederation also noted the need for the government to adopt immediate measures to resolve the deficit in the balance of payments and the fiscal deficit, promote investments, and improve the purchasing power of wages. After making a long analysis of various economic factors, the confederation stated that "unfortunately all the economic measures adopted by the government since it came to power on 10 October have failed."

"So far, the measures adopted by the government to resolve the crisis have been isolated and out of touch with the core of the crisis that is affecting us. These stop-gap measures have not given practical solutions to the crisis, but rather have deepened it." The document added: "On fighting the symptoms rather than the causes of the crisis, the economic measures adopted so far have created economic and political conditions that hinder private business activities and which instituted a socialist system that has increased poverty, curtailed freedom and deepened the crisis."

The businessmen based their arguments on the following facts: 1) the gross domestic product decrease; 2) the production drop; 3) the unemployment increase; 4) the investments decrease; 5) the fiscal deficit (the businessmen quoted an official report to the effect that this year's deficit will exceed 200 billion pesos); 6) the balance of payments deficit; and 7) high issuance of currency.

As regards the wages, the businessmen stated that the increases, which are only nominal, "affect the well being of the workers."

The confederation's document stated that the situation calls for comprehensive economic measures. "This means that to find realistic solutions we must begin by, among other things, resolving the structural problems, the amount of public expenditures, the needless public investment, the excessive state bureaucracy, the ineffective administration of state enterprises, corruption at all the levels, the inadequate tax system, the lack of incentives at all levels, the lack of incentives for the exporting sector, and the exclusion of the farmers from the economic conduct."

The confederation also proposed the signing of agreements with international financial institutions and the stopping of political demagoguery.

ALLEGED TERRORISTS REPORTED TO BE CHILEAN

PY162105 Paris AFP in Spanish 2358 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] La Paz, 15 Nov (AFP) -- Today AFP learned that the foreigners who formed part of a group of seven alleged terrorists arrested by the Army in Luribay, La Paz, last October are Chilean citizens.

A reliable source, who requested not to be identified, indicated that the name Luis Fernandez Flores, who is a Peruvian citizen belonging to the Shining Path group, is completely false.

The foreigners currently held under arrest by the military police are: Pablo Manuel Cepada Camillieri and Rene Patricio Lizama Lira, both of Chilean citizenship.

Rene Patricio Lizama Lira was living in exile in France and was arrested when he was visiting Bolivia.

The Army disclosed that the group of seven armed individuals belonged to a cell of the Shining Path terrorist group.

Today Interior Minister Federico Alvarez Plata stated that he has no proof that the Peruvian Maoist group is operating in Bolivia.

Juan Lechin Oquendo, main leader of the Bolivian Labor Federation (COB), rejected the possibility that the Shining Path group may be operating in Bolivia and stated that groups of a fascist leaning that want a coup to take place in Bolivia carry out the terrorist attacks and then say that the Shining Path group is operating in Bolivia with the purpose of creating the necessary atmosphere for a coup.

PRESIDENT'S AGENDA FOR AFRICAN VISIT RELEASED

PY110110 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 10 Nov 83

[Text] The Planalto Palace today released the official program for President Figueiredo's visit to Nigeria, Guinea-Bissau, Senegal, Algeria, and Cape Verde that will begin on 15 November. According to the agenda, the president will transfer the presidency temporarily to Vice President Aureliano Chaves at 2220 on 14 November at the Brasilia airbase.

After military honors, the president will leave at 2300 for Lagos, capital of Nigeria, where he is expected to arrive at 1010 on 15 November, 0610 Brazilian time. At 1600, 1200 Brazilian time, Figueiredo will hold his first meeting with Nigerian President Shagari and will then go to his official residence where he will receive members of the Brazilian colony at 1830. On the morning of 16 November, the Brazilian president will place a wreath at the foot of the tomb of the Unknown Soldier, visit the national museum, and hold another meeting with the Nigerian president. In the afternoon he will receive the diplomatic corps and in the evening he will join President Shagari at the official dinner at the Lagos national theater.

On the morning of 17 November, the two presidents will sign a joint communique and Figueiredo will immediately leave for the airport, accompanied by the Nigerian president, from where he will depart for Guinea-Bissau. His arrival at the Guinean airport is scheduled for 1106, 0806 Brazilian time, where, after the welcoming ceremony by President Joao Bernardo Vieira, President Figueiredo will continue to the Palace of the Republic where he will continue the people of Guinea-Bissau. In the afternoon he will hold talks at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and then participate in an official luncheon at the Palace of the Republic. Immediately afterwards, the two presidents will sign a joint communique at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

President Figueiredo and his retinue will leave Guinea-Bissau at 1700 local time for Senegal. He will arrive at the Dakar airport at 1740 and will be welcomed by President Abdou Douf. From the airport he will leave for the official residence and will hold a meeting with the Senegalese president on the morning of 18 November. In the afternoon he will tour the city in the company of the mayor and in the evening he will participate in the reception at the Brazilian Embassy.

On 19 November at 0900, 0500 Brazilian time, the Brazilian delegation will leave for Algeria, where it is expected to arrive at 1420. At 1930 President Figueiredo will meet with Algerian President Colonel Chadli Benjedid at the presidential palace. He will then participate in an official dinner. On the morning of 20 November, President Figueiredo will place flowers at the martyrs' shrine, will visit the socialist village and [name indistinct], a historical place. At 1500 he will meet again with the Algerian president. In the evening he will go to the Brazilian Embassy where he will be honored with a reception.

On the morning of 21 November, Figueiredo will leave for Sal Island in Cape Verde, where he is expected to arrive at 1115, 0715 Brazilian time.

From the airport the Brazilian delegation will go to the official residence, where Presidents Figueiredo and Aristides Maria Pereira will begin talks. At 1740 they will sign a joint communique at the airport and president Figueiredo will end his visit to Africa, leaving for Brasilia where he is expected to arrive at 2140.

Foreign Minister Saraiva Guerreiro, Mines and Energy Minister Cesar Cals, and Military Household Chief Ruben Ludwig will make up President Figueiredo's delegation.

Begins African Tour

PY150305 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 0230 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] At 2300 [0200 GMT] tonight, President Joao Figueiredo left for Lagos, Nigeria on the first leg of a 5-day tour of some African countries. He is accompanied by Mines and Energy Minister Cesar Cals, Military Cabinet Chief Rubem Ludwig, and Foreign Minister Ramiro Saraiva Guerreiro.

President Figueiredo arrived at the airport at 2215 [0115 GMT] and talked with Ludwig and Civilian Cabinet Chief Leitao de Abreu before transferring the office to Vice President Aureliano Chaves with a simple handshake.

President Figueiredo will arrive tomorrow at 100 [1300 GMT], 0600 [0900 GMT] Brasilia time in Lagos, and will hold his first meeting with the Nigerian president in the afternoon. Over the next 4 days, Figueiredo will also visit Guinea-Bissau, Dakar, Algeria, and Cape Verde.

Reportage on Nigerian Visit

For Nigerian media reportage on President Joao Baptista Figueiredo's 3-day visit to Nigeria, including his arrival and talks with Nigerian President Shehu Shagari, see the Nigeria section of the 16 November Middle East and Africa DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

CAR EXPLODES AT O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO

PY161507 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 16 Nov 83

[Text] Sao Paulo State police and federal police are convinced that the explosion of a Voyage car at the O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO parking lot was an attack against the newspaper and not an accident.

The car's licence plates belonged to a VW van of the Minas Gerais telecommunications company. The van was manufactured in (?1977) [words indistinct] the company board. If the van was still being used, it had either been stolen or taken out of circulation.

BRIEFS

PETROBRAS GASOLINE EXPORTS -- In November, PETROBRAS will export 1.57 million barrels of gasoline (over 250 million liters), using seven tankers of the National Tanker Fleet [Fronape] to make the shipments, Fronape's superintendent Luiz Augusto Reis Barcellos has reported. The gasoline will be shipped to the United States, Italy, and African countries, but its selling price was not disclosed. [Excerpt] [Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 5 Nov 83 p 16 PY]

COMMENTARY ON CONCERN OVER PRIESTS' ACTIVITIES

PY141545 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 14 Nov 83

["Monday Commentary" by newsmen (Fernando Pradena)]

[Excerpts] Good morning, dear listeners: The public is confused and does not know what to think in view of some events of a religious nature that have taken place in the last few days. Let us refer to the Pudahuel District, but similar things are also occurring in other neighborhoods.

Mothers are observing with horror the attitudes of some priests and nuns who are working among them. According to these mothers, the things that are being done by these nuns and priests are very different from what they have learned during sermons and confessions. They are distributing pamphlets supporting the protests, which have claimed so many innocent victims and caused so much irreversible damage. When those mothers go and hear their sermons, they believe they have gone to the wrong place, because it would seem that parishes are in fact political, party, or extremist centers, because they are told about oppression and protests in a tone that the mothers feel is clearly Marxist in orientation.

The Pudahuel mothers also report that these priests, when promoting protests, do not wear anything identifying them as such. They beat pots or ring the bells of the chapels to sound the alarm.

The Pudahuel mothers, over 300 of whom have signed a public statement, are observing with horror how their children are growing up with social resentments and class hatred, and how they are becoming a testing ground for the Marxist doctrines of the dissolution of the family and of subversion, extremism, and violence.

SPANISH INTERFERENCE IN AFFAIRS PROTESTED

PY160215 Santiago Radio Cooperativa in Spanish 1715 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] The Spanish Government would like to see Chile return to democracy, but it does not intend to interfere in Chile's internal affairs, the Spanish ambassador in Santiago has stated.

There is no interference in the internal affairs of Chile intended in the letter of Spanish Government leader Felipe Gonzalez. The letter only expresses the desire for Chile to return to democracy. This explanation was made today by Spanish Ambassador in Santiago Miguel Solano Aza in reference to an official note released by the National Social Communications Division, DINACOS, which is subordinate to the Government's General Secretariat. The note is strongly critical of spokesmen of ex-political parties whom the note accuses of having requested actions by international organizations and foreign governments against the Chilean Government. The note mentions a letter written a few weeks ago to Greek Prime Minister and EEC President Andreas Papandreu by Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez, saying that responsible members of the Chilean opposition had requested two favors of him: First, to encourage West European governments to make efforts that would bring about a change of regime in Chile; and second, to call on those governments to impose a freeze on bank credits being given to Chile.

In this regard, the Spanish ambassador in Santiago affirmed that the letter had indeed been written, expressing wishes for Chile's return to full democracy as soon as possible, and asking for joint action to that effect provided it does not imply interference in Chile's internal affairs. Of course, the ambassador said, no reference was made regarding economic sanctions or measures. The ambassador noted that the letter was published in Madrid by the TIEMPO magazine on 24 October, but that he is not in any position to say whether the letter was prompted by talks with Chile's opposition. He added that the letter only mentioned that talks had been held previously with members of the Radical Party, the Christian Democratic Party, and the Socialist Party, but nothing is said about whether they had made a petition.

Asked whether he considers the letter an interference in Chile's internal affairs, the ambassador said that he did not, because actions can be undertaken in many ways to encourage the Chilean Government to continue moving toward democracy. The Spanish ambassador said that his government is always interested in promoting democracy, but insisted that no economic sanctions or measures had been requested.

INTERIOR MINISTER DISCUSSES POLITICAL OPENING

PY141206 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 6 Nov 83 pp A1, C7

[Report on "exclusive" EL MERCURIO interview with Chilean Interior Minister Sergio Onofre Jarpa on 5 November -- place not given]

[Excerpts] As for the political laws and the president's invitation to regional groups to participate in their preparation, Minister Jarpa has said that the chief of state had received some petitions to that effect, adding that "so far they have not contributed anything because everything is being handled in Santiago."

Minister Jarpa also referred to the progress in the study of the political laws, noting that his personal idea is that "the political parties could be functioning by the middle of next year." He said: "Thus, I believe it will be easier to study other aspects of those laws, because determining the electoral districts and the number of representatives that should be elected by each district is very important. If we want a stable democracy with two or three large parties representing majority groups of the citizenry, we have to have one system. If we want a proliferation of small parties, we have to have another system."

He added that "now when the political parties are not yet legally organized, it is impossible to define that question which, as I see it, is fundamental for the stability of the system. I think that to form the parties, since there is no way to make an assessment at this time, it would be advisable to allow them to organize by requiring a large number of signatures. Thus we can continue the study of the political laws with the participation of truly representative sectors."

Jarpa referred to recent declarations by Democratic Alliance [AD] President Enrique Silva Cimma and Social Democratic leader Luis Bossay regarding the dialogue and "concessions." The minister explained that "there is confusion on all this. Every time I have met with AD leaders, I have told them about the president's and the government's desire to proceed with the study and promulgation of the fundamental laws for implementing the provisions of the 1980 Constitution. On their part, they believe that the dialogue is intended to seek a path other than that established in the Constitution."

This is not acceptable to the government, inappropriate for the country, and not conducive to the objective we want to attain. They have said that they question the validity of the 1980 Constitution because it was approved in a plebiscite held without electoral registrations. However, they want to elect a constituent assembly with no voter registration either.

Jarpa added that "they have talked to me about other political subjects in which they are also interested, such as emergency legislation, the curfew, the return of exiles, authorization to hold rallies, among others. On each of these, I explained to them the government's position, the measures which have been adopted, and the measures that are under consideration."

He said: "I never intended to negotiate those measures, and at the meeting we held I asked the AD leaders for nothing, not even to suspend the days of protest. So I do not know what they are referring to when they speak of 'concessions.' What I have asked them repeatedly to do is to join in the study of the fundamental laws for implementing the Constitution, because I believe that the AD has democratic sectors that may play an important role in the democratic system which the government has been putting into action."

Answering another question, Jarpa declined to comment on the idea of an appointed Congress, noting that "it is not in keeping with the 1980 Constitution." He added that the leaders of the "Independent Democratic Union," two of whom are taking part in the study on the political laws, must explain how they can be members of a presidential advisory body and at the same time be members of that political organization and hold positions not in keeping with the 1980 Constitution.

He noted that "it is not true that I proposed the idea of appointing a congress." He added: "What I said at the meeting was that I believe that we should move on with the study of the political laws and enforce them, and elect a congress later." He said: "I also noted that some political sectors came up with the idea of establishing a mixed commission with former legislators to study the political laws, and with the idea of appointing a congress." Jarpa explained that "this is not a government proposal, because we repeatedly have said that everything must be done as prescribed by the Constitution." He added that it is not true that he proposed the idea of appointing a congress by revalidating the congressmen's mandates which were in force in September 1983, leaving out the Marxist sectors.

He noted that the Constitution prescribes, in one of its transitory measures, the election of Congress in 1990, but that this date could be brought forward by reforming the Constitution through a plebiscite.

Jarpa, however, pointed out that the Statute of Political Parties has to be written first, deciding whether large parties or several small parties will be allowed.

The interior minister then said that "next the general elections law will have to be taken up to decide the question of districts, because it is not easy to determine the effects which the division in districts will have on Chilean politics. Likewise, the questions of party alliances, party representativeness, participation of the independents, bloc formation, and others have to be looked into."

Jarpa then said that "thereafter electoral registration has to begin in each district for some 7 million people. This will take some time. The Election Qualification Tribunal and the Congress Organization Law are to follow."

Minister Jarpa continued that "once these laws are promulgated, the time should have come to decide on the date to call for a plebiscite, an electoral campaign, and the final congressional elections."

In the interior minister's view, all of these "have to be done with organized, responsible, large political parties interested in a stable system, and capable of making efforts to uphold democracy as either winners or losers in the elections."

He said that he could not exactly anticipate the time that will be required to implement such a program, but "if everyone cooperates, it will be done faster."

Regarding the economic situation -- which according to some members of the opposition makes an opening unviable because it will create "increasing social demands" -- Jarpa said that a 5-year reactivation plan and other measures for identical purposes are under study. He also said that "there are also sectorial plans which have begun to yield fruit." He recalled that a law creating a social and economic council is under consideration, so that workers, businessmen, and the state can together participate in the implementation of economic policy. Jarpa said that this council will have the same importance for economic development as Congress will have for political development.

FINANCE MINISTER DISCUSSES PROSPECTS FOR 1984

PY122047 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 9 Nov 83 pp A 1, 12

[Excerpts] Finance Minister Carlos Caceres has made the following projections for next year: 5-percent GDP [Gross Domestic Product] growth, under 25 percent inflation, and 12 percent unemployment by December 1984.

The finance minister stated that the foundations of economic strategy will be maintained, including unregulated prices, private enterprise, integration with world markets, and the supportive role of the state in the economy.

The minister talked about these issues yesterday at the opening session of the Fifth National Enterprise Meeting (ENADE '83), which was sponsored by the Chilean Institute of Rational Business Administration (ICARE).

In his discourse, Minister Caceres talked about the prospects for the Chilean economy in 1984, and projected a 5-percent economic growth. Minister Caceres said that an increase in exports of about 8 percent is to be expected, counting on a moderate recovery in the price of copper. He also said that imports will be maintained at the current low levels, only allowing increases in line with the growth of the GDP. He expects a trade balance surplus of approximately \$800 million.

Regarding unemployment, the minister noted that unemployment has decreased nationwide, mainly owing to governmental programs, but also as a result of stimulus provided for economic recovery. He then said that unemployment should be expected to drop to 15 percent by December 1983, and to nearly 12 percent by December 1984.

On the balance-of-payments issue, the minister noted that \$700 million of the total needed to balance the payments will come from credits granted by multinational organizations and suppliers' credits. He added that "the difference will come from international bank credits which are being negotiated, and the concession of which depends, among other things, on our potential lenders' perception of our economic development."

The finance minister revealed that the 1984 fiscal budget has been designed to have a moderate deficit which can be financed without pushing interest rates up, so as not to discourage financing-dependent private activities. He said that social expenditures will be kept at approximately the present level, trying to make more rational use of subsidies, which "should only go to the needy."

Minister Caceres said that the country will have to meet three great challenges in the coming years: to increase exports substantially, to boost the rate of domestic savings, and to create enough jobs.

He stated that the government's main concern will be to create conditions for turning the export sector into the vanguard of the country's progress, and recalled that an interministerial commission was recently created for the purpose of proposing solutions and new ideas in the near future. He said that the commission has undertaken the study of questions such as the role of PROCHILE [Institute for Export Promotion] in promoting exports in a more active manner; the streamlining of regulations which hinder exports; the role the state must play in bilateral negotiations; the drawing up of a policy for creating a basic export infrastructure; and the formulation of a policy to meet the technological needs of the export sector. The minister noted that the document prepared by Chilean businessmen has been of great help in the commission's work.

Along with the general program, "the government will implement a currency exchange policy to guarantee exporters adequate earnings."

Promotion of internal savings is the second challenge the government should meet in order to attain economic and employment growth, so "an effort to raise internal savings to a higher level than the country has been used to in the past will be indispensable," the minister said.

The government will create incentives and conditions of stability and confidence to attract savings through measures such as the tax reform plan which has been submitted to the government junta, and which is intended to reward reinvestments by entrepreneurs and savings in financial assets by people.

In addition, the modification of the General Law of Banks and Financial Institutions being analyzed by the Advisory Commission is aimed at "consolidating a strong and effective private financial system, and preventing the mismanagement of banking institutions, which has been detected just recently."

The minister called attention to the fact that, in addition to incentives for internal savings, an indispensable supplement to the savings-investment process is the flow of external credit and foreign investments. Thus, it is necessary to have a reliable economic policy in order to give foreign investors security and confidence.

Minister Caceres emphasized that the third challenge the country should meet in the coming years is the creation of jobs, which is by itself an objective. To that end, special labor-intensive programs will be maintained, and formulas will be devised to promote employment.

Some of those mechanisms are already in place, and the government will implement others, such as:

A) Rebates will be granted to entrepreneurs to whom public work projects are awarded on the basis of the labor used. This should encourage bids with greater labor-capital ratio.

- B) Conditions of security to be created for marketing and contracts, so that craftsmen can develop export capabilities.
- C) Labor-intensive exports sector to be given vigorous stimulus through PROCHILE. Forestry, fishing, and agriculture are foremost in this sector.
- D) A public investment program to be maintained as much as possible with labor-intensive financing.

While steering economic growth toward labor-intensive activities, Minister Caceres stressed that "any action advocating subsidies or creating incentives that require capital expenditures should be avoided, such as subsidized interest rates, tax or customs fees protection for capital-intensive sectors, or measures leading to increased labor costs or labor administration costs.

ALLENDE FOREIGN MINISTER PREDICTS PINOCHET FALL

PA152359 Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 1 Nov 83 pp 5-A, 22-A

[Article by Carlos A. Medina: "It Will Not Be Easy To Topple Pinochet; He Has The Army's Support -- Almeyda"]

[Text] Toppling the Augusto Pinochet regime in Chile "will be both difficult and painful for the people, because the dictator still has the support of the Armed Forces." This was admitted yesterday by Clodomiro Almeyda, the foreign minister in Salvador Allende's government and now, in exile, general secretary of the Chilean Socialist Party. His fall is only a matter of time -- though it would be irresponsible to make any predictions. What is certain, however, is that "the countdown on his regime has already begun." Almeyda was optimistic about the recent Argentine elections, because "they will bring a definite change to the South American political panorama in favor of democracy." Chile and Argentina share close political links. Now more than ever, Chile will also struggle to create a constitutional regime. We will follow in Argentina's footsteps."

At a press conference granted to the Association of Foreign Correspondents, the former senior official of Allende's socialist government declared that "the invasion of Grenada, unfortunately painful for its people, has aroused resentment against Ronald Reagan's government throughout Latin America. This is highly positive both for us and for all the peoples of Latin America. This is true because today as never before we are convinced that our primary enemy is the U.S. Government -- not its people -- and we are uniting to overthrow it."

Almeyda explained that an air of tension prevails in Chile. Pinochet's government has heightened its repressive measures to crush the slightest sign of protest. "Repression has increased, but it has not weakened the courage of all Chileans who today openly defy the fascist junta ruling Chile." Almeyda said that his trip to Mexico allowed him to visit fellow party members and friends living in exile here. He also made note of his meeting with "my friend Victor Flores Olea, under secretary of foreign relations. We exchanged ideas on a number of Latin American political issues, including the elections held the day before yesterday in Argentina. Our entire discussion took place within a cordial, informal, and respectful atmosphere."

After leaving Mexico, Almeyda will travel to Managua, Nicaragua, for a meeting of Chilean Socialist Party leaders living in several Latin American countries. The session will be devoted to an analysis of the current situation in Chile, the impact of Argentine political developments on Chile, and the methods and means of organization to accelerate the fall of the regime that rules that South American country.

YA INTERVIEWS CHILEAN OPPOSITIONIST SILVA

PM151351 Madrid YA in Spanish 9 Nov 83 p 14

[Interview with Chilean Democratic Alliance and Radical Party Chairman Enrique Silva Cimma by Jose V. Colchero in Santiago; date not given]

[Excerpt] Santiago de Chile -- Question: Mr Silva, the Argentine elections have created expectations regarding Chile. Do you believe that your country is about to join the democratic nations, or must it continue to wait?

Answer: I have justified expectations that we can achieve a return to democracy soon. We are carrying out all our political activity in relation to this hope. There are many points of agreement between my party, the Chilean Radical Party, and Argentina's Radical party, and I am bound by close ties of friendship to Alfonsín. I hope that we, too, will soon reach the goal reached in Argentina.

Question: Do you expect Chile's timetable for democracy to last months or years? The Democratic Alliance changes its chairman monthly. Does this mean that it expects to achieve its goal very soon?

Answer: I have no information that enables me to objectively establish a timetable in months or years. As regards the monthly rotation of the chairmanship, on my suggestion the Alliance has just altered the rule, and we will now change every 2 months. A 1-month term is too short.

Question: But do you believe that you will become the Alliance's chairman a second time, or do you believe that things will have changed in Chile by then?

Answer: I hope I do not become chairman again, but it is very likely....

Question: What does the Democratic Alliance, which you head, stand for, and which groups does it embrace? Which are the groups with the most popular -- and presumably electoral -- support within the Alliance?

Answer: The Democratic Alliance is a conglomeration of essentially democratic parties. Their shared essence is their adherence to democracy, and their primary aim is to achieve an early return to a democratic system in Chile. Within the Alliance, there are right-wing groups; there is the Christian Democratic Party, democratic socialist thought is embodied in two parallel forces -- the Social Democrats, and my party, the Radical Party (they are likely to merge, because they are working in that direction, and I personally believe that it should happen); and there is the socialist bloc.

Question: Which forces having support in the country have remained outside the Alliance?

Answer: The Communist Party.

Question: Is there nobody to the left of the Communist Party?

Answer: There is the MIR, the Revolutionary Left Movement, which has a divergent stance and whose opinions therefore do not coincide with ours. The Alliance intends to rally the forces with a genuinely democratic approach, as conceived in the Western countries. The parties of the Alliance believe that our parameters coincide with those of democratic forces in other parts of the world.

Question: As chairman of the Alliance, do you believe that the Armed Forces are right behind Pinochet's political blueprint, or do some sectors also support the Democratic Alliance?

Answer: The answer to your question is a rather unpleasant one. I must reply categorically that the Armed Forces seem to have a well-defined position of cohesion behind the head of state.

Question: Is a process of democratization possible in Chile with General Pinochet in the La Moneda Presidential Palace? The dialogue between the Alliance and Interior Minister Sergio Onofre Jarpa has been broken off, but could it resume? How far and under what conditions would it be possible to advance from dialogue to cooperation.

Answer: The dialogue was not broken off because we wanted to, since our democratic vocation and desire to resolve problems by peaceful methods convinced even us of the need to accept a dialogue, in the hope of thus being able to achieve an earlier return to democracy. But our interlocutors had no intention of reaching democracy sooner. That is why we decided to resume our peaceful struggle, pursuing every path that enabled us to assert -- nonviolently -- a dissident stance and a clear attitude of opposition to the government.

Question: So, will the transition to democracy be more of a "rupture" than a "transition"?

Answer: Not necessarily. There could be a transition in which circumstances somehow made it possible to establish a provisional government to lead us to complete democracy.

Question: Are the days of protest and the pan-beating demonstrations effective, or is there now an excessive risk of human casualties claimed by the repression, which could be greater in the future, though on the latest protest day, 2 weeks ago, there were no deaths but there were several injuries?

Answer: There were no deaths last time, but you are quite right to say that the loss of human life has been considerable. The 11-12 August protest days were set by the church and the church's social bodies. There were 86 deaths as a result of the fierce repression unleashed by the armed police in the streets. This is an appalling figure. We intend that the 18 November demonstration that we have announced to be a truly representative expression of the people, so they can state peacefully and en masse that this system can continue no longer.

Question: What is the strength of the revolutionary sectors in Chile? Could there be a process comparable to Nicaragua's if Pinochet refuses to surrender power with a tenacity similar to Somoza's there?

Answer: Your question is a very interesting one because we representatives of the opposition political forces are worried by the fact that the so-called marginal population is marginal partly because it is not governed by the regime and not controlled by the political parties or even by the extremists. These major groups of the population -- over a third in Santiago, the capital -- influenced by famine, could commit really dangerous acts.

Question: You are also president of the Radical Party, which is one of Chile's traditional parties. There is now a splintering into currents within this party. What chances do you see for it in the future? Will it become established within the Socialist International?

Answer: My party is a member of the International and, as you rightly said, is split; there are major factions that used to belong to it that have now broken away. At present a unifying process is underway.

Our thinking as democratic socialists coincides with the thinking of the Chilean Social Democrats, who are clear representatives of democratic socialism. We must try to unite to fill the vacuum that exists on the Chilean political map.

Question: Do you believe that a two-party system will emerge in Chile when democracy is restored, as has happened in Argentina? Would it be formed here by the Christian Democrats and the Radicals?

Answer: The Chilean political map should reasonably be embodied in four forces at most -- one left-wing Marxist, one democratic socialist, one Christian democratic, and one right-wing. Democracy must permit the expression of all ideas. It is another matter that we are opposed to the materialization of the ideas put forward by terrorists, since we reject it and will always combat it.

AD REQUESTS MEDIA COVERAGE OF 18 NOV RALLY

PY151345 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0434 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] Santiago, 14 Nov (EFE) -- The opposition coalition Democratic Alliance [AD] today requested that the rally slated for 18 November be broadcast over the national radio and television network.

Upon presenting a note requesting that the rally be broadcast live, Carlos Dupre, who is in charge of coordinating the rally, today said that this is a legitimate right of all Chileans, pointing out state-owned stations normally carry government activities. Dupre said they mainly want coverage from 1930 to 2030 (2230 to 2330 GMT), at which time AD President Enrique Silva Cimma is scheduled to deliver his speech.

CNI BRANCH ATTACKED; TWO POLICEMEN WOUNDED

PY151510 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1653 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] Santiago, 15 Nov (EFE) -- Two policemen were wounded during an attack on a branch of the National Intelligence Center [CNI] here early this morning. According to first reports, at about 2030 GMT today three unidentified individuals who were trying to put a bomb at the door of a CNI branch were discovered and repelled by gunfire from the policemen. The attack took place on a street in the northern sector of Santiago. Neighbors of the CNI branch indicated that two explosions were heard before the attack was repelled.

'Agitators' Demonstrate at CNI Office

PY161915 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1630 GMT 16 Nov 83

[Text] Approximately 100 political agitators have demonstrated in front of a garrison of the National Intelligence Center [CNI]. This demonstration was reportedly held in support of the request to dissolve the CNI. The demonstrators identified themselves as members of Catholic Church organizations, especially of the so-called Vicariat of Solidarity.

The police forces charged them with preventing the flow of traffic and detained several political agitators. This demonstration was held less than 48 hours after an extremist attack on a CNI garrison. [Words indistinct] want to end up with the CNI by all means and at any cost. It is believed, in this regard, that the objective of the Marxist extremists is to carry out a violent action against the government, as they have demonstrated on several occasions.

MINISTER VIEWS PRESIDENT'S TALKS WITH GUERRILLAS

PA162252 Bogota Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 16 Nov 83

[Excerpt] Bogota -- Government Minister Alfonso Gomez Gomez today said that following the talks President Betancur held in Madrid with leaders of the M-19 [19 April Movement], the Peace Commission has been involved in a number of interesting meetings with the guerrillas. He added that Peace Commission President John Agudelo Rios has been particularly active in contacting those who have taken up arms. Minister Gomez Gomez described this task as difficult, but added that it is moving along the right path. The official made these statements to journalists in Narino Palace after the meeting held between the president and the high peace commissioners.

The minister added that the commissioners made a positive assessment of the results achieved during these talks.

The official also announced that the members of the Peace Commission will visit Yacopi and Cundinamarca to continue their efforts for peace, review the programs being implemented, circulate among the people and, in general, achieve a peaceful coexistence on a national scale.

Asked if there have been any additional cases of guerrillas taking advantage of the amnesty law, Gomez Gomez answered that individuals frequently do so. Since the amnesty operates as a regular statute, no special ceremony is required, but it is normal practice for those who accept amnesty to notify the local authorities, he added. According to the minister, more than 1,000 people have taken advantage of amnesty throughout the country.

Here is a report by Carlos Julio Gonzalez:

[Begin recording] [Gonzalez] President Betancur and Minister Gomez Gomez met with the Bishop of Florencia, Monsignor Jose Luis Cerna; retired General Gerardo Ayerbe Chaux; Alfredo Carvajal Sinisterra, an industrialist from Valle del Cauca; Antonio Duque, high peace commissioner for the mid Magdalena area; and Presidential adviser Amparo (Bousas) Quintero. Minister Gomez Gomez later reviewed the steps taken during the meeting, stressing that an effort had been made to define future tasks within the framework of a rehabilitation plan for the mid Magdalena region.

[Gomez Gomez] The meeting (?was held) to evaluate both the commission's work and the tasks involved in the National Rehabilitation Plan, as well as the efforts made [words indistinct] official activity, which (?requires) a constant evaluation of present and future actions. [end recording]

FARC, M-19 REPORTED CARRYING OUT JOINT ACTIONS

PA162333 Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 11 Nov 83 pp 1, 2

[Article by Eduardo Carrillo]

[Text] The Armed Forces admitted today that some subversive groups such as the Castroite National Liberation Army (ELN) are increasing in strength, and declared that they are skeptical about the results of the application of the amnesty law. They warned that there is a large sector of armed people who have shown contempt for the generosity of President Belisario Betancur's government and who continue subversive actions.

General Gustavo Matamoros D'Costa, acting minister of national defense, made this statement and admitted that there are serious problems and difficulties in some areas of the country where the groups continue operating and have ignored the call made by President Belisario Betancur and the Congress of the Republic to accept Law 35 of 1982, which he described as extremely broad.

General Matamoros emphasized that there are groups that persevere against the legally constituted democratic institutions, but he expressed optimism that peace will prevail in the end. He said that there are organizations such as the so-called Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC), which remain the same; others, such as the ELN, have increased in size, and there are those which have the same (?resources), although they have registered a decrease in support groups, as in the case of the 19 April Movement (M-19).

Matamoros also emphasized that according to reports from the latest Communist Party of Colombia meetings, FARC and M-19 have united and have carried out joint actions that have already been detected in the area of the Sumapaz. The latest joint action by these two groups took place on the Cienaga path, in the Cascabel corregimiento, within the municipality of La Cruz in Narino, where troops killed two leaders of the 10th FARC Front and confiscated documents referring to a gigantic subversive escalation. This escalation would consist of assaults on banks, the seizure of towns, attacks on small police garrisons, and the kidnapping of cattle breeders, merchants, and industrialists.

Matamoros D'Costa also reiterated that foreign intervention within the subversive groups is an indisputable reality. In the beginning no one chose to believe us, but Fidel Castro himself told the Colombian press that he had helped and continues to provide all types of aid to guerrillas, not only in Colombia but throughout the continent.

The defense minister concluded by saying that the Armed Forces do not have the capability to conduct dialogue with the guerrillas, but that the government has created a special body for this -- the National Peace Commission -- along with other mechanisms.

FARC, M-19 MEMBERS CLASH WITH ARMY TROOPS

PA161355 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 16 Nov 83

[Text] Bogota -- Eight people, including one lieutenant, three civilians, one police inspector, and two guerrillas, were killed as a result of subversive actions in four different regions in the country, the national Army has reported.

The clashes took place in Putumayo, Caqueta, Magdalena, and Cauca, between Army troops and members of the FARC and M-19. The official report noted that the victims were Lieutenant Oscar Anibal Ballesteros, Police Inspector Francisco (Wilfredo) Munoz, soldier Jaime Rojas, civilians Lizardo, Silvio, and Jorge Garces, and two guerrillas.

The most intensive fighting took place in Caqueta, between Army troops and about 100 M-19 guerrillas under the command of Gustavo Arias Londono.

JUSTICE MINISTER VIEWS EXTRADITION POLICY

PA152218 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] Bogota -- Justice Minister Rodrigo Lara Bonilla announced that the Colombian Government will study a request by U.S. authorities to extradite Colombians on a case-by-case basis.

Lara Bonilla added that the decision adopted in the case of Colombian citizen Emilio de Jesus Mejia, in whose case extradition was denied, does not mean that the same legal decision would be applicable to the other pending cases. Lara Bonilla also noted that the [Colombian] justice system has been obsolete from the beginning, and that the resulting problems are proof of the government's incapacity to solve the citizens' problems, particularly the delays in legal proceedings.

The justice minister noted that there are 1.4 million criminal cases in Colombia and that superior courts handle a total of 160,000.

Lara Bonilla said he favors reforms in academic study plans, the judicial profession, and the Superior Magistrates Council [Consejo Superior de la Magistratura].

Lara Bonilla added that there are 29,000 inmates in the country, of whom 23,000 have been indicted and only 6,000 have been convicted.

BETANCUR DECRIES ARMS RACE, CALLS FOR PEACE

PA102023 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 5 Nov 83 p 13-A

[Excerpts] President Belisario Betancur has once again condemned the arms race, saying that more than \$1 million is invested in destructive weapons every minute. He also announced the construction of a new Air Force base in Vichade. The president spoke at ceremonies commemorating the 92d anniversary of the National Police, held at the General Santander Cadet School. Ranking civilian, military, and ecclesiastic authorities participated in the event. "Each minute that passes," President Betancur stressed, "1 million is invested in weapons of destruction [as received]; 80 million Colombian pesos are invested in arms by maddened human beings."

Peace Is Universal

The president reiterated that peace has one meaning; it is one; it is universal. He continued: "However, we must take into consideration the fact that the near-sighted view that peace is local, rather than universal, might emerge."

Asked if he has received documents from the FARC [Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia], President Betancur responded by saying that he has received several documents and held several meetings with members of the FARC, citing the meeting he held with the Peace Commission when it was presided over by Doctor Otto Morales Benitez. He added: "I am searching for peace here and everywhere."

ANTIOQUIA GOVERNOR DENIES REBEL GROUP EXISTENCE

PA152128 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] Medellin -- Antioquia Governor Nicanor Restrepo Santamaria today denied that there are any new guerrilla groups in the country. He rejected news reports that a new group called Shining Path, also operating in Peru, had been identified.

The official said that reinforcements have been sent to the areas most affected by subversive groups, particularly Puerto Clever, where a group of guerrillas kidnapped gold trader Luis Carlos Gonzalez Hernandez. Restrepo Santamaria said that more forces will be deployed to affected regions. Various guerrilla groups, which reappeared in Antioquia, are operating in these regions.

ARMY COMMANDER DENIES ROLE IN DEATH OF PEASANTS

PA150308 Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 9 Nov 83 pp 1, 3

[By Eduardo Carrillo]

[Text] The Armed Forces were created to safeguard legally constituted democratic institutions and not to commit murder or disrupt public order. General Gustavo Matamoros D'Costa, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, made this statement at Palanquero Air Combat Command No 1 while denying any connection between the Army and the violent death of 22 peasants. The incident, which occurred between the towns of Remedios and Segovia in Antioquia, was revealed by Carlos Jimenez Gomez, the national attorney general, and by Fathers Jorge Mira Balbin and Gabriel Yepes, who accused a Captain Valbuena of killing the peasants.

Gabriel Yepes, a parish priest in Remedios, said that the crime was committed on the basis of orders issued by Capt Valbuena in mid August in the jungle mining region.

Attorney General Carlos Jimenez Gomez declared before Congress that "those responsible will be penalized, whoever they may be."

Matamoros D'Costa explained that he is certain -- in both the moral and legal sense -- that the charge brought against the Armed Forces is totally false. He pointed to the fact that there are no Army bases in the mining region of Antioquia and, furthermore, that the military's mission is to safeguard the lives, honor, and property of Colombians.

"I am now morally certain -- and this will be proven legally -- that the charge against the Armed Forces is totally false. It is false because first, we have never gone to that region. Second, our professional mission requires us to act as honorable men in the protection of the lives, honor, and property of all Colombian citizens," Matamoros D'Costa stated.

General Matamoros declared that the Armed Forces were not created to commit murder, disrupt public order, or create difficulties, but rather to ensure that peace prevails for the benefit of national development.

LLOREDA LEAVES FOR OAS MEETING IN WASHINGTON

PA151950 Bogota Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] Bogota -- It was officially announced that Foreign Minister Rodrigo Lloreda Caicedo left for Washington today to participate in the annual OAS meeting.

Lloreda Caicedo will also attend a meeting of foreign ministers of the Contadora Group countries, consisting of Colombia, Mexico, Panama, and Venezuela.

This meeting will also include the foreign ministers of the Central American countries affected by internal conflicts.

The Contadora Group meeting is a new effort to achieve a negotiated peace for Central America.

NO ELECTORAL IMPACT ON ECONOMIC POLICY EXPECTED

PY161505 Lima Diplomatic Information Service in Spanish 0629 GMT 16 Nov 83

[Text] The economy minister has stated that the outcome of the municipal elections will not have any impact on economic policy, since all efforts thus far cannot be discontinued at this time when positive signs, such as the decline in inflation, are being observed. He said: "It would be useful to keep the results of the municipal elections strictly within their proper scope. The Peruvian economy is now undergoing a process of internal adjustment which requires continuity and stability; that is, time for the expected results to materialize."

HAVANA NOTES CHANGE OF AYACUCHO COMMAND

PA150427 Havana International Service in Quechua 2200 GMT 9 Nov 83

[Text] General Clemente Noel Moral, military chief of Ayacucho, will end his duties and be replaced by another military officer, according to the Peruvian defense minister, who added that this change is normal.

More than 220 Peruvian Army members have been declared deserters; 50 of them took their weapons with them, according to reports published by the newspaper EL DIARIO MARKA. The newspaper cited Jose Fernandez, a retired major, who said that the desertions have taken place because Armed Forces members do not wish to be accomplices in the massacres in Ayacucho and other places where the government has declared a state of emergency.

In Lima, Attorney General Miguel Caverio expressed his concern about the possibility that drug traffickers who handle large amounts of money may infiltrate political parties and gain influence in the government now that the 1985 elections are approaching.

The Peruvian education minister stated that schools must remain closed throughout the week to avoid problems during the strike called by the Single Union of Education Workers of Peru.

Eight workers from the Social Security Institute have started a hunger strike in support of their 3,000 fellow workers, who are on strike demanding salary increases. It has also been reported that workers from the Transportation and Communications Ministry are on strike.

AYACUCHO VIOLENCE, CLASHES REPORTED CONTINUING

PY161935 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1744 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] Lima, 15 Nov (EFE) -- Clashes with the police and Army in Ayacucho, Huancavelica, and La Libertad Departments have resulted in the deaths of 36 members of the Maoist Shining Path Group.

The body of Augusto Toledo, a member of the governing Popular Action party, was also found in Ayacucho on the Huanta-Ayacucho highway, presumably murdered by members of Shining Path.

It was made known today that Rodolfo Calderon, Popular Action candidate for mayor of Huanta, Ayacucho, who was shot by members of Shining Path on 10 November there, died in Lima as a consequence of the wounds.

According to police reports, last Sunday some 50 terrorists attacked Vinchos, Ayacucho, with submachineguns and homemade bombs, but they were repelled by the police. The clash resulted in the death of 15 terrorists.

Press reports today state that a column of terrorists ambushed the police forces in Pampamarca, Huancavelica, next to Ayacucho. This clash resulted in the death of 20 members of the terrorist group, among them Edwin Quispe, head of a guerrilla column.

In Marcabalito, La Libertad, Corporal Ramon Morales died and another officer, Sergio Altamirano, was wounded when repelling a terrorist attack last Sunday. The terrorists intended to attack a polling station during the municipal elections held that day. One of the terrorists died during the shootout.

Mayoral Candidate Killed

PY152313 Paris AFP in Spanish 1953 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] Lima, 15 Nov (AFP) -- Police sources reported here today that 15 terrorists and 5 civilians died in the Andean Department of Ayacucho during clashes that took place last Sunday night.

According to the report, the Shining Path members died in a clash with security forces that lasted several hours. The clash took place close to Vinchos, some 35 km south of the city of Ayacucho, where the political-military command is headquartered.

It was also reported that a terrorist group attacked the town of Huamanguilla, and that they killed five people at the main square. Among those who were killed was Filimon Delgadillo, the ruling party candidate for mayor.

Mayor-Elect Requests Truce

PY161740 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0907 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Excerpts] Ayacucho, Peru, 15 Nov (EFE) -- The new mayor of the Andean city of Ayacucho wants Shining Path to declare a truce in its terrorist activities so that she may carry out humanitarian activities in the area.

In an interview granted to EFE, Leonor Zamora Concha, who was elected mayor of Ayacucho last Sunday, requested that Shining Path cease hostilities, and also wants the presence of the International Red Cross to evaluate the seriousness of the violence in this region.

Leonor Zamora, of the National Integration Party, obtained an overwhelming victory in last Sunday's election. According to incomplete figures, she obtained over 50 percent of the votes.

The mayor-elect said she will look into the cases of over 100 "missing persons". In the last few months there have been increased charges that over 100 persons, who were arrested by the Army and the police on charges of being Shining Path collaborators, have "disappeared" in the Ayacucho region.

Several mutilated and decomposed bodies were found last week. According to the mayor-elect, two of these bodies have been identified as missing persons.

HAVANA ON STRIKES, GOVERNMENT REACTION

PA121457 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 10 Nov 83

[Text] The Peruvian Government has threatened to apply sanctions against striking workers who have shut down several public utilities for several days. The strikes over higher salaries and other labor benefits have affected the Economy, Finance, and Commerce Ministry, as well as transportation and communications, the Social Security sector, customs, postal services, the Judicial Branch, and the municipality of Lima.

The country's teachers were scheduled to strike on Tuesday. However, the government suspended classes for 1 week to prevent the strike. The Cuacone copper mine workers are also striking. The mine is owned by U.S. Transnational [name indistinct] Corporation.

PRESIDENT TO ATTEND ALFONSIN'S INAUGURATION

PY112228 Paris AFP in Spanish 2146 GMT 11 Nov 83

[Text] Lima, 11 Nov (AFP) -- Peruvian President Fernando Belaunde Terry will travel to Argentina to attend the inauguration of Radical Civic Union leader Raul Alfonsin as the new Argentine president.

The announcement was made here today at a press conference by Fernando Schwalb, foreign minister and president of the Council of Ministers.

Schwalb said the Peruvian president was pleased to accept the invitation to attend such an important ceremony, which will mark the reestablishment of the state of law in that sister nation after several years of military rule.

Schwalb also said that the date for the president's trip has not yet been set, but noted that according to Alfonsin's remarks, the inauguration will take place between 10 and 15 December.

SOVIET OFFICIAL VIEWS HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT

PY161524 Lima Diplomatic Information Service in Spanish 0631 GMT 16 Nov 83

[Text] In a press conference, the chief of the Soviet trade mission has announced that the Olmos [hydroelectric] project, which has elicited great expectations in the country, especially among the people of Lambayeque, can start as soon as the Peruvian Government approves a draft document submitted by a group of Soviet experts.

MORE ON SEPULVEDA'S COMMENTS ON NONINTERVENTION

PA161834 Mexico City EL SOL DE MEXICO in Spanish 14 Nov 83 pp 1, 20

[By Roberto Aguilar G.:]

[Text] Foreign Relations Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda Amor warned yesterday that the principle of nonintervention "cannot be negotiated. It is an international legal principle that must be respected by all states."

The foreign secretary in this way denied reports on the possibility of Mexico taking part in negotiations to prevent intervention by other countries in Nicaragua. He said, "modesty aside," that our country's role in preventing the aggravation of the Nicaraguan conflict has been outstanding. For the time being Mexico has prevented the Central American problem from becoming more critical, he added.

Moments before leaving for Washington to attend a meeting of OAS ministers, Sepulveda said that the support given by the United Nations to the Contadora Group is a victory for all the [Contadora] member countries, and hence also a Mexican victory.

The foreign secretary pointed out this support because for the first time an issue as controversial as the Central American situation was agreed upon unanimously and received an absolute consensus in the United Nations. This support not only strengthens the Contadora Group's efforts, but also increases the Group's determination to carry out a mandate of the international community: to renew its peace efforts to prevent an armed confrontation in Central America.

In addition, Sepulveda announced that beginning today, the Contadora Group will begin working on a review of the diplomatic efforts thus far, as well as a consultation process dealing with all aspects of the Central American conflict.

MINISTERS PLEASED WITH RESULTS OF TALKS IN CANADA

PA102012 Mexico City NOVEDADES in Spanish 4 Nov 83 p 6

[Excerpt] As the Mexican delegation that participated in the fifth Mexico-Canada ministerial meeting led by Foreign Secretary Sepulveda Amor arrived in this capital, it was learned here that at the meeting, which was held in Ottawa, a strong appeal was made that the agreements signed by the Central American governments be reinforced by cooperation on a larger scale, in line with the Contadora Group spirit.

Exhortation For Aid

Sepulveda Amor and Canadian Foreign Minister Allan MacEachen exhorted governments outside the area not to engage in actions that might obstruct the essential process of cooperation, reconciliation, and peace in Central America.

In a joint communique, the two officials referred to the current situation in Central America and the Caribbean. They also expressed their concern over the invasion of Grenada by foreign troops and condemned the use of force by the United States in international relations, reaffirming that the principles of nonintervention, territorial integrity, self-determination, and the sovereignty of all states in the area must be completely respected.

The ministers also referred to the need to agree that the ministerial commission's next meeting be held in Mexico in 1985.

Relations Reviewed

At the meeting, the two delegations reviewed the state of bilateral economic, political, and cultural relations. They expressed deep satisfaction with results in all areas, which have served to further expand the ties of friendship that already exist between the two nations, and they stressed the political commitment to continue to strengthen ties and develop new formulas for cooperation.

High-level Visits

Both the Mexican and Canadian delegations agreed that bilateral development should continue, and pointed to the urgent need for the promotion of public and private visits by high-ranking political figures.

The ministers reviewed the state of bilateral trade, and stressed the need to continue efforts to create a panorama suitable to its growth. They also noted the urgent need to resist protectionist tendencies in the international markets, especially measures that might nullify the comparative advantage in the use of abundant natural resources.

They reviewed the international oil market situation and agreed that greater contact among consumers and producers might be a valuable way to improve mutual confidence and to promote the energy market.

With regard to natural gas, the prospects for the recovery of the U.S. market were reviewed, as were the two countries' production plans as they affect trade in the field of energy. This field must be expanded through exchanges in the areas of oil, coal, and information on nuclear technology, in accordance with existing economic prospects.

Arrival of Mexicans

The secretaries of foreign relations, industry, and agriculture returned to this capital from Ottawa last night, very pleased with the results of the talks held at the fifth Mexico-Canada ministerial meeting.

Foreign Secretary Sepulveda, who led the delegation, said that the issues discussed there will strengthen bilateral trade and will promote it for the future.

He also explained that Commerce Secretary Hector Hernandez went from Ottawa to Europe to attend to certain matters connected with his post.

BANK DIRECTOR ANNOUNCES \$9.6 BILLION TRADE SURPLUS

FL162246 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2155 GMT 16 Nov 83

[Excerpt] Durango, (Mexico), 16 Nov (NOTIMEX) -- Adolfo Phillips Olmedo, director of the National Bank of Foreign Trade, announced here today that during the first 9 months of this year, Mexico's balance of trade reached an unprecedented surplus of \$9.6 billion.

Speaking in the presence of President Miguel de la Madrid, Phillips said that the surplus is due to the fact that in the same period imports were reduced by 53 percent and that there was a parallel 22 percent increase in the export of manufactured products.

PLANNING MINISTER COMMENTS ON INCLUSION IN CBI

PA161730 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 16 Nov 83 pp 1-A, 8-A

[Text] Planning Minister Jose Menalco Solis, President Ricardo de la Espriella's authorized representative, told MATUTINO yesterday that in late November U.S. President Ronald Reagan will proclaim Panama and nine other area countries beneficiaries of the Caribbean Basin Initiative. In response to a question, Solis added that Panama is "reasonably certain" that it will be included among the first 10 countries, but that on Thursday Reagan will submit the list to the U.S. Congress for discussion. The minister, who led the Panamanian delegation that negotiated the terms of the inclusion of Panama in the so-called "Reagan plan" noted that negotiations are now over, and that "all the necessary considerations" for inclusion in this program "have been met." Explaining Panama's participation in this plan, he said that there are no pre-established "commitments" and that our country will participate in the area of "opening the U.S. market to Panamanian manufactured products." He added that Panama has neither requested, nor deems it suitable, to participate in chapter two of the plan, involving the holding of conventions in this country which would be tax deductible in the United States, because this would necessitate a treaty on the exchange of information [as published], and this "entails a very high cost, which we cannot pay." He explained that "we have not held talks on this, but we have said that we are not interested in a treaty for the exchange of information." Regarding the tax issue, the Finance and Treasury Ministry has indicated that it "is not advisable."

Finally, Solis disclosed that the World Bank yesterday approved a new \$60-million loan for Panama that will assist in meeting the country's financial needs until December 1984. The minister explained that this is the last loan that will be negotiated this year, and that it will specifically bolster the investment budget rather than the operational budget. Regarding the terms of the loan, \$40 million will be extended in 1983, and the remainder in 1984.

Concerning the Bipartisan Commission for Central America headed by Kissinger, Solis said that he had learned in Washington that the members of this commission are "extremely" impressed with the results of their visit to Panama, where they met with high-ranking figures of the government, the private sector, and political circles.

POLITICAL PARTIES GIVEN PRELIMINARY VOTING LISTS

PA161642 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 16 Nov 83 pp 1-A, 8-A

[By Ernesto Quijada Diaz]

[Excerpt] The Electoral Tribunal has delivered copies of updated preliminary electoral lists to the legal representatives of all the political parties already formed or in the process of formation. The lists were prepared on the basis of results of the 12 December census conducted by the Comptroller General's Office. Political parties are to review the lists prior to the issuance of official electoral lists for the upcoming elections scheduled for May 1984. The ceremony, which was held in the Electoral Tribunal's conference room, was attended by all local political leaders and by all members of the tribunal. It was presided over by its president, Cesar Quintero, and Magistrates Rolando Murgas Torrasa and Yolanda Pulice de Rodriguez. The magistrates answered questions regarding the voluminous lists, which clearly provide an updated figure on the number of people eligible to vote. That figure totals more than 796,000 Panamanians.

COSTA RICAMONGE ASKS U.S. TO CLARIFY MILITARY ISSUE

PA162017 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 16 Nov 83

[Text] During a meeting held yesterday between President Luis Alberto Monge and U.S. Ambassador Curtin Winsor Jr, Monge asked the diplomat to have his government clarify to the international media that no military forces will be sent to Costa Rica. Monge said that in accordance with a cooperation agreement between the two nations, the United States will send a team of civilian engineers and technicians to cooperate with Costa Rica in various development projects.

In any case, those who would be involved in this are not military men or members of the Armed Forces, as has been reported by several of the international news media. Since the U.S. Government was the one that released the report, we have asked that government to clarify the situation, Monge said. He also noted that similar requests to send engineers and technicians have been made to Panama, Venezuela, and Colombia.

PVP HOLDS 14TH CONGRESS, CHANGES BYLAWS

PA162226 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 16 Nov 83

[Text] The Popular Vanguard Party [PVP] has created the post of party president. The PVP held its 14th Congress over the weekend. It was attended by 118 of the 120 delegates elected according to the party's bylaws. The congress approved an amendment to Article 47 of the bylaws to create the position of party president. In addition, it approved a resolution on the national situation and another on the situation in Central America and the Caribbean in which it made an appeal to defend the nation's sovereignty. The PVP maintains its unshakable faith in the struggles of the popular masses and the people's organization and unity as the only means to advance on the path of revolution, it said. Finally, PVP members asserted that adventurous positions will never have a place within the PVP's ranks.

EL SALVADORREPORTAGE ON GOVERNMENT MILITARY ACTIVITY

Operation in Eastern Region

PA160346 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 12 Nov 83 p 4

[Text] San Miguel -- Military sources here reported that several battalions have opened operations in a number of towns in eastern El Salvador. The battalions have been deployed to Meanguera, Jocoaitique, Perquin, San Fernando, and other towns in Morazan Department. These areas have remained outside the control of military authorities due to their remoteness, a lack of surveillance in those regions, and the fact that they are not considered strategic, the sources added. Nevertheless, they said, the Army is continuing its new "dislodging operation," which began this week.

It was learned yesterday that the terrorists have begun to withdraw from the positions they had been occupying near these regions when they discovered that the Army is conducting one of its "largest" campaigns in recent months. The sources stated that additional details of the military success achieved in the east, particularly in Morazan, might be learned this weekend.

Attack in San Vicente

PA160312 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1730 GMT 14 Nov 83

[Report issued by the Salvadoran Armed Forces Press Committee -- no date given]

[Text] Members of the Armed Forces have repelled an attack on the town of San Lorenzo, San Vicente Department. The terrorists failed in their attempt to seize the town when they confronted members of the civil defense, who were organized within the "Peace and welfare for San Vicente" operation. In an action intended for its propaganda value, FMLN extremists attacked the small town of San Lorenzo in northern San Vicente department. The some 500 extremists tried to seize the town over the weekend, but the professionalism of the Armed Forces kept the town from becoming yet another victim of the extremists' destruction and looting. The terrorist groups sustained an undetermined number of casualties, but the traces of blood found on the path of their flight indicate that the number was high, a local resident pointed out.

Soldiers Wounded Along Highway

PA162311 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1200 GMT 16 Nov 83

[Report by Mario Campos in Usulután -- live or recorded]

[Text] Soldiers and leftists were involved in fighting yesterday between 0600 and 1200. According to official sources, the violence erupted while the extremists were stopping traffic and demanding their famous war tax. The military claims that the fighting was centered along that section of the coastal highway which runs from the El Coyolito Bridge to the Jiquilisco turnoff. A man identified as Manuel de Jesus Martinez Rivas was wounded in the skirmish, as were five government soldiers. The number of casualties suffered by the extremists is not known, since they take their wounded away with them. Residents of Santa María have reported that at around 1000 yesterday, two crop dusting planes were fired upon. One is owned by the Salvadoran Cotton Cooperative and the other by Francisco Ayala. No one was injured due to the skill of the pilots.

Fighting Reported in Usulután

PA162317 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1730 GMT 16 Nov 83

[Report issued by the Armed Forces Press Committee]

[Text] Usulután -- One soldier and a national guardsman were wounded when terrorists failed in their attempt to ambush several army patrols. Yesterday, members of military detachment No 4 from Usulután engaged groups of terrorists in El Coyolito canton, in the Jiquilisco jurisdiction of Usulután Department. One soldier was wounded during the fighting, and the extremists fled. The number of casualties suffered by the extremists is not known. National guardsmen clashed with FMLN terrorists yesterday along the road to Jiquilisco in Usulután. One national guardsman was wounded in that incident.

Clashes in Morazan

PA170913 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1730 GMT 16 Nov 83

[Report by Raul Beltran]

[Excerpts] [Words indistinct] in the northern part of Sociedad Province, about 180 km east of San Salvador in Morazan Department. Military sources in San Salvador as well as in San Miguel, La Union, and San Francisco Gotera have confirmed that units of the Cazadores Battalion from La Union have been fighting FMLN guerrillas since Tuesday morning in the areas of Cerro Ocotepeque and Cerro El Tablon, north of Sociedad. According to clandestine station reports, the guerrillas are part of what is called the Rafael Arce Zablah Brigade.

Military sources in San Salvador today denied guerrilla reports on the death of 21 soldiers and the capture of 45. The leftists claim they have seized 60 weapons from the Army in the fighting since Tuesday morning in northern Sociedad. Army units continue operating in that area to reestablish order, military spokesmen in San Salvador reported today. Meanwhile, everything is calm and normal in Suchitoto as well as on the road between Suchitoto to San Martin. Residents and officials of Suchitoto today confirmed that order has been reestablished after the guerrillas briefly interrupted traffic to demand war tax and food from the people on that road on Tuesday morning.

It has been confirmed today that on the Coastal Highway near the town of Tierra Blanca soldiers continue intense patrols following heavy fighting with leftists the previous afternoon. Military sources in Usulután said that the number of leftist casualties is unknown. However, military spokesmen in Jiquilisco said that no less than 40 rebels were killed in the fighting that lasted 5 hours on Tuesday near Tierra Blanca and 14 de Julio on the Coastal Highway, about 70 km southeast of San Salvador.

Meanwhile, Army units continue patrolling the main Northern Highway in anticipation of the sugar cane harvest to begin on Monday in that part of the country. Soldiers are patrolling all of the Northern Highway in search of rebels who might attack vehicles carrying the sugar cane to the biggest sugar mills, in the country's central zone, which are processing the cane, a vital product for the economy. According to military reports, patrols have increased in the sugar mills and on the highway, and they will continue until the harvest has been completed.

VENCEREMOS REPORTS CLASHES WITH GOVERNMENT

Claims Control of Highway

PA160320 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 16 Nov 83

[Excerpt] Attention, attention: We have received military information from the Francisco Sanchez Southeastern Front, sent by Juan Ramon Medrano, Commander Balta, from the zone of San Agustin Tres Calles. It is reported that forces of the Rafael Arce Zablah Brigade's southern group, under Francisco Martinez, Commander Gonzalo, took control of a section of the highway near the place known as Desvio San Francisco Javier at 0500 today.

A patrol of the elite Atonal Battalion arrived at 0600. This is the patrol guarding El Coyolito Bridge. After 15 minutes of combat, the elite Atonal Battalion fled -- as is customary -- in complete disarray.

More reinforcements arrived at 0900; after 1 hour of combat they also fled in complete disarray. A large contingent arrived at 1000 from the city of Usulután. Hours later these forces also withdrew in disarray. At 1330 our forces took new positions and maintained control of the highway until 1730. The results of these combats are as follows: The enemy suffered 11 deaths and 12 wounded. Our forces recovered 3 M-16 rifles and 1 pair of binoculars. During these combats, the enemy forces were supported by four helicopters. The enemy's forces belonged to the Atonal Battalion, troops of the 4th Military detachment from Usulután, and the finance police.

Venceremos Says Cazadores Defeated

PA162152 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 16 Nov 83

[Report by FMLN Commander Jorge Melendez, member of the Commander Lillian Mercedes Letona Northern Group of the Rafael Arce Zablah Brigade, in Morazan Department -- live]

[Text] We want to tell the Salvadoran people that today, 15 November, units from the Commander Lillian Mercedes Letona Northern Group of the Rafael Arce Zablah Brigade launched an attack on positions held by the Cazadores Battalion from La Unión General Gerardo Barrios [as heard] north of Sociedad. Our units launched simultaneous attacks on Ocotepeque, El Tablon, and El Tizate Hills. Each of these hills was being defended by an enemy company.

The attacks began at 0500 today. By 0630 we had already taken our first prisoner and seized 2 M-16 rifles and 1 M-19 grenade launcher. We had also killed one soldier and wounded others. At that time the Cazadores Battalion had much artillery and air support. At 0720 we damaged a helicopter that was providing the enemy with artillery support. We also hit enemy machinegun positions.

By 1000 we had forced the enemy troops off the Ocotepeque and El Tablon Hills. It is important to note the participation of Companero Commander Tono, who pursued the company that had been holding Ocotepeque Hill. When the enemy company fled from the hill, Commander Tono and his units pursued it for 90 minutes. They were able to place an FMLN force ahead of the enemy, forcing it to halt. Other FMLN forces then surrounded the enemy to attack it from the sides and rear.

Once this maneuver was achieved, fighting continued for approximately 4 hours. As a result of this, Commander Tono achieved the following: the capture of 40 men, 11 enemy dead, the recovery of 47 weapons and 1 PRG-77 military communication radio, and the death of the officer who commanded this company.

As a result of the fighting on El Tablon Hill and the enemy evacuation of Ocotepeque, our forces recovered more arms, took more enemy prisoners, and inflicted more casualties. The fighting was bitter. The enemy was supported at all times by its Air Force and helicopters. So far, the results of the combat are: seizure of 64 M-16 rifles, 3 M-79 grenade launchers, 2 M-60 machineguns, 1 90-mm cannon with 16 shells, 21 dead, and 47 prisoners. We also seized 1 PRG-77 radio.

This victory is very important for two reasons: First, the Cazadores Battalion is the main unit implementing the tactics that the North Americans have recommended in the struggle against the Salvadoran people. This Cazadores Battalion has been completely broken. It has been forced out of all the positions it held, and the fighting continues. We expect the number of enemy casualties and prisoners to increase.

This battalion was completely inefficient in combat. The tactic that the North Americans want to implement through the Cazadores Battalion merely gives the Rafael Arce Zablah Brigade and FMLN units the opportunity to face military forces who allow us to recover more weapons and secure new victories.

The other reason that this victory is important is that while this fighting was going on, another battalion trained by the North Americans in Puerto Castilla -- the rapid deployment General Manuel Jose Arce Battalion -- was in the area and was unable to provide any kind of support to the Cazadores Battalion, in spite of the fact that the fighting went on all day today.

We want to mention the heroic fall of five [as heard] companeros. They are: Commander Jaime, a companero with a heroic record, a brave and exemplary man, a man of decisions, a heroic fighter; Squad Chief Companero Ruben; and Companero Felipe and Companero Adan, members of the group led by Jaime. These companeros are an example of the will of the Salvadoran people and revolutionaries to fight to the end, until we achieve a definite victory over the dictatorship and U.S. imperialism, which backs it.

We are committed to upholding their heroic example with the same will and dignity. Today's actions represent an important victory for the Salvadoran people. We will maintain contact in the next few hours and early tomorrow to keep the people informed of the results of the actions initiated today. We also want to inform the Salvadoran people that Commander Humberto Guevara -- Commander Javier -- is the executive commander of this operation. We also note the ability and the heroic and decided spirit made evident by all the fighters of the Rafael Arce Zablah Brigade in offering the Salvadoran people another victory that brings us nearer to complete victory.

PROBE ORDERED OF CONFESSION IN ADVISER'S DEATH

PA160328 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 14 Nov 83 pp 3, 48

[Text] Aware of the need to preserve justice in our country, the defense minister has ordered a thorough investigation to find out whether pressure was used to force Pedro Daniel Alvarado Rivera of the People's Liberation Forces, FPL, to take responsibility for the death of U.S. adviser Albert A. Schaufelberger, it was reported yesterday.

A communique of the Armed Forces Press Committee stated that once this investigation is concluded, appropriate measures will be adopted and the investigation to determine who is really responsible for the death of Commander Schaufelberger will be continued.

The statement issued yesterday in this regard stated: "Declaration of the Defense and Public Security Ministry. Aware of the statement issued by the U.S. Embassy and of others published in the U.S. news media, and aware of the need to preserve justice in our country, the Defense and Public Security Ministry has ordered a thorough investigation to find out whether pressures were used to force Pedro Daniel Alvarado Rivera to declare himself guilty of the death of Commander Albert Schaufelberger. Once this investigation ends, appropriate measures will be adopted and the investigations will continue to determine who is really responsible for the death of Commander Albert A. Schaufelberger.

San Salvador, 14 November 1983"

NEWSPAPER FINDS VIDES' STATEMENTS 'REASSURING'

PA152334 San Salvador EL TIEMPO in Spanish 11 Nov 83 p 5

[Editorial: "Defense Minister Defines Armed Forces' Position"]

[Excerpts] We feel that some of the views expressed by Defense Minister General Eugenio Vides Casanova with regard to the political and military problems faced by our country at this critical stage in its history are worthy of special comment. Vides voiced these views during a graduation ceremony for Armed Forces instructors and staff officers on 4 November.

The senior military officer declared emphatically that the Armed Forces are apolitical and are bent on preventing the introduction of sectarianism within their ranks as it could undermine their granite-like unity. It is only logical to suppose that this absence of political leanings does not mean that the Armed Forces will not assume any responsibility with regard to national events. Therefore, as Vides said, the Army's attitude with regard to the political and social process is one of vigilance and support for the democratic process, for which the blood of Salvadoran soldiers is being shed, and, consequently, it will oppose anybody who tries to stop such a process.

Under the present circumstances, when obscure enemies of democracy are constantly circulating ominous rumors that certain unspecified military quarters are ready to thwart the difficult democratic process, in which all Salvadorans who love freedom with justice and peace are engaged, General Vides' statements are a sufficient authoritative denial of such ill-intentioned rumors and are therefore words of encouragement to the entire Salvadoran people. Furthermore, in his speech the minister pledged the Armed Forces' support "for all adjustments and changes required to promote the nation's historical development to correct unjust situations."

Regarding the strategy of terror, which has been stepped up in the last few weeks by the extremist forces trying to thwart the process of changes and democratization, the minister stressed his desire "to reaffirm to all members of the Armed Forces the order to fight with particular energy against terrorist organizations, whether they are extreme leftist or rightist and regardless of their sponsors, as well as everybody's obligation to bravely and unhesitatingly provide information on their existence, so that the full weight of the law may be applied against them." The high-ranking military officer described the actions of these criminal clandestine groups which kidnap, torture, and murder defenseless human beings as "savagery." He then charged that they are blocking the foreign assistance which the country urgently requires. We hope that the minister's orders will bring about the positive results expected by our society so that it may recover some degree of peace, move on with the process it has begun, and devote itself to productive work with at least some tranquility.

EPISCOPAL CONFERENCE CONDEMNS RIGHTIST THREAT

PA151506 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 0247 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Excerpts] San Salvador, 14 Nov (DPA) -- The Episcopal Conference of El Salvador said today that "in view of the seriousness and importance of the threats" made against bishops Rivera y Damas and Gregorio Rosa Chavez by the rightist "Maximiliano Hernandez Martinez Brigade," it publicly and strongly condemns those threats and accusations.

The conference added that no human authority or group has the right to restrain, repress, or put pressure on a person who, in this particular church, delivers God's message. The Episcopal Conference stated in a note: "Acting as a mouthpiece for the majority of our people, we respectfully beg the country's authorities to do everything possible to put an end to this situation of continuous insecurity."

VENCEREMOS ON IKLE'S ASSESSMENT OF ARMY SITUATION

PA150429 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Excerpt] Fred Ikle, the U.S. under secretary of defense who visited El Salvador a few days ago, recently declared to the newspaper THE WASHINGTON POST that the U.S. Government must admit the Salvadoran Army is encountering serious difficulties in its fight against the guerrillas and that the plans drawn up by U.S. advisers are not developing as they should. This negative picture is a dark spot for the United States amid a wave of aggressive actions initiated by Ronald Reagan. This campaign includes the invasion of Grenada, the warmongering calls issued during his recent visit to South Korea and Japan, the installation of 160 nuclear missiles in Europe and the bombings in Lebanon. Mr Fred Ikle, U.S. under secretary of war, also announced that his government will soon dispatch some 1,000 U.S. soldiers to Costa Rica to conduct military maneuvers in that country, coincidentally in the same area that serves as a staging point for the counterrevolutionary forces that attack Nicaragua.

U.S. STAND ON ALLEGED KILLER, COUP RUMORS LINKED

PA140421 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 1830 GMT 13 Nov 83

[Text] FMLN has reports clearly indicating that Colonel Jaime Abdul Gutierrez has made direct contact with U.S. Embassy personnel in our country. This is a new report of the latest movements toward starting a coup. In the midst of the puppet regime, a growing internal struggle for power is developing. This internal struggle is also occurring in the government Army ranks. This is another proof of U.S. intervention. [passage indistinct]

The puppets of the current regime are not assisting in any way President Reagan's foreign policy toward Central America and our country. One facet of the maneuvers toward a coup is the fact that the Yankee State Department has decided to admit publicly that Daniel Alvarado Rivera was not the patriot who carried out the worthy execution of adviser Albert Schaufelberger on 25 May.

This statement, open and bold, reveals that U.S. officials themselves are accomplices to concealing the false charges against Alvarado Rivera. This also confirms the fact that Yankee Embassy agents participated directly in interrogation and torture sessions against Alvarado Rivera. Ronald Reagan, Pickering, Kissinger, and Stone knew perfectly well that they were not telling the truth when they accused Alvarado Rivera, and their foreign policy appears exposed today before the peoples of the world.

REBEL LEADER SCORES U.S. INVASION OF GRENADA

PA091430 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] Mario Aquinada Carranza, leader of the Revolutionary and Unified Directorate of the FMLN of El Salvador, today said in Bogota, Colombia, that the United States, through its intervention in Grenada, [words indistinct] its policy of aggression and intervention.

During a meeting with Colombian President Belisario Betancur, Aguinada Carranza stated the position of the forces opposed to the Salvadoran regime regarding the U.S. intervention in Grenada and its consequences for the region. Aguinada also told the Colombian president that the Salvadoran revolutionaries are concerned about the situation in the Central American region, particularly in El Salvador and Nicaragua, because some U.S. sectors are considering interventions in both countries.

HAVANA ON U.S. OFFICIAL'S VIEW OF MILITARY AID

PA141745 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 14 Nov 83

[Text] Fred Ikle, U.S. under secretary of defense, has said that the United States should increase its military aid to the Salvadoran Army, which is facing serious difficulties in the war against the FMLN rebel forces.

In statements made to THE WASHINGTON POST, Ikle said that the Salvadoran Army needs more helicopters and war materiel. It would be an exaggeration, he said, to say that things are going badly for the regime, but its impetus has diminished.

The U.S. under secretary of defense, who recently ended a 5-day tour of Central America, said that the Salvadoran Army needs several million dollars in aid. Meanwhile, the FMLN has reported that during the first two weeks of the "Yankees, Get Out of Grenada and Central America" campaign, its guerrilla forces cost the Army 162 dead and wounded, and captured 166 weapons and 6 sets of communications equipment.

HAVANA NOTES DEATH THREATS AGAINST CLERGY

PA160232 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] Violent clashes took place this Monday in San Lorenzo in San Vicente Department between FMLN forces and Army troops. When San Lorenzo was attacked by the Salvadoran rebels last Friday two soldiers were killed and four injured, according to government spokesmen.

Other reports state that the Salvadoran Episcopal Conference energetically condemned the death threats that the so-called Maximiliano Hernandez Anti-Communist Brigade made against Arturo Rivera y Damas, archbishop of San Salvador, and Gregorio Rosas Chavez, his auxiliary bishop. This death squad, protected by the regime, threatened to murder the two prelates if they continue to publicize the repression prevailing in the country in their homilies.

GUATEMALA

MEJIA REMOVES, REPLACES AGRICULTURE MINISTER

PA160436 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0103 GMT 16 Nov 83

[Text] Guatemala, 15 Nov (ACAN-EFE) -- Guatemalan Chief of State General Oscar Mejia Victores dismissed Agriculture Minister Oscar Najera Farfan today and appointed Rodolfo Perdomo Menendez in his place. After relinquishing his post to his successor, the outgoing minister said that "the chief of state is the only one who can decide when to remove a minister. There is nothing special about this change."

However, political observers said that the change could be because the one who had proposed Najera Farfan for the Agriculture Ministry post was General Hector Lopez Fuentes, former chief of staff who has been assigned to a diplomatic post. The same observers noted that Gen Lopez' relationship with the National Liberation Movement (MLN) of the radical right, which led to his turning over his post last month to Colonel Rodolfo Lobos Zamora, could also be the reason for Najera Farfan's removal. The new minister, Perdomo Menendez, had previously held the post of deputy agriculture minister (1971-1974), and until today was an adviser and professor of the international cooperation office at the University of Texas in the United States.

CHARGES OF MISSING PERSONS 'CANNOT BE PROVEN'

PA160324 Guatemala City Radio Nuevo Mundo Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] The acting foreign minister has declared that figures are used recklessly in propaganda to discredit Guatemala. International reports from Strasbourg state that the Inter-American Human Rights Federation [as heard], which is headquartered there, has charged that nearly 15,000 Guatemalans have disappeared since the fall of the Rios Montt government. Acting Foreign Minister Colonel Carlos Moreira has described such reports as part of a campaign to discredit Guatemala.

The deputy foreign minister said: Who could really have accurate statistics on this, and on what basis could they have been collected? Therefore, the charges of a large number of missing persons cannot be proven. These are extremes that can arise only at the international level, where certain organizations are very hasty in reporting these numbers. Col Moreira claimed that such international reports seek to perpetuate the bad image of the country abroad, making the people believe reports that actually serve specific interests.

Nevertheless, Guatemalans are aware that there are missing people. They also know that this situation is a result of actions by subversives and by common criminals. He pointed out that the government is making constant efforts to investigate adequately and to resolve the issue of those Guatemalans who have disappeared. However, due to a lack of human and material resources, results have been achieved in only a few cases.

CIVIL REGISTRY OFFICE RULES ON POLITICAL GROUPS

PA152019 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] The Civil Registry Directorate has recognized eight political organizations -- out of the 36 that exist -- as committees for the formation of political parties. Two of the committees given recognition today are: The Democratic Popular Force [Fuerza Democrata Popular] and the Democratic Party of National Cooperation [Partido Democratico de Cooperacion Nacional], which are led by (Francisco Rios Buscaney) and (Moe Morales Gabarrete). The other committees that have been recognized are: The National Unity Front, the Democratic Revolutionary Union, the Emerging Concord Movement [Movimiento Emergente de Concordia], the National Liberation Movement, the National Democratic Coordinating Board [Coordinadora Nacional Democratica], and the Democratic Institutional Party.

Another 24 organizations are expecting a favorable decision from the Civil Registry. Four organizations that aspire to becoming committees for the formation of parties have not yet gone to the Civil Registry to file their requests. Until 1 September, when the Civil Registry was created, requests were filed with the Government Ministry.

POLICE PATROL ATTACKED IN GUATEMALA CITY

PA160212 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] A patrol of the National Police Reaction Battalion for Special Operations, BROE, was attacked this afternoon by several men on Aguilar Batres Boulevard and 16th Street, Zone 11 in Guatemala City. In the intense shooting, one of the attackers, identified as Rolando de Leon, and another unidentified man were wounded. Municipal firemen immediately took them to the Roosevelt Hospital where they are reported to be in serious condition.

HAVANA INTERVIEWS PARTY LEADER ON GRENADA

PA162007 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Interview with Antonio Garcia, representative in Cuba of the Guatemalan Labor Party, by unidentified reporter, at the Jose Marti Plaza of the Revolution; date not given -- recorded]

[Excerpt] [Unidentified reporter] I would like to hear your opinion about this huge demonstration at the Jose Marti Plaza of the Revolution.

[Garcia] Well, I think that this is an impressive demonstration, a massive demonstration showing the Cuban people's combative spirit. It is a moving experience to see this mass of people gathered here shouting "Long live Fidel and the party," and expressing their hatred of U.S. imperialism, which perpetrated the greatest crime of the past few years with its invasion of Grenada.

[Reporter] What do the people's firmness and decisiveness and the combat cries that we are hearing now mean to you?

[Garcia] They represent the possibility of victory for all Latin American peoples in their struggle against imperialism. I believe that this is the best expression of what our peoples can do to defeat imperialism. Only the unity of the people and their revolutionary firmness will allow us to defeat the terrifying arms of imperialism.

[Reporter] In Grenada, U.S. imperialism tried to teach a lesson to the peoples of our America, to show us that it is ready to attack any of our countries. Do you think that the Cuban people's reply indicates that this U.S. objective was fulfilled?

[Garcia] I believe that it shows quite the opposite. The Cuban reply shows us the possibility of victory. The Cuban people are showing us the path that should be followed. I believe that this is an impressive demonstration of the people's strength, a strength that no one can stop, not even by using an atomic bomb.

[Reporter] Antonio, we now see even more clearly in Central America that the United States is trying to apply pressure on the Nicaraguan revolution and also on the revolutionary processes in El Salvador and Guatemala. I would like to hear your opinion regarding the results of a possible U.S. intervention in Central America.

[Garcia] Well, I think that it would cause material damage to peoples who have been oppressed for centuries. However, imperialism would be confronting peoples who are determined to win, peoples who are willing to fight until they win. This is very important. I think that we have the example of the Cuban revolution to emulate, and we also have the example of peoples in many other parts of the world, who are showing us that the only way to defeat imperialism is by the firm and determined struggle of our peoples. Our peoples and their revolutionary vanguard have already embraced this cause.

HONDURAS

FDN, GOVERNMENT ACTIVITY ON NICARAGUAN BORDER

PA151925 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1723 GMT 15 Nov 83

[By Armando Cerrato]

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 15 Nov (ACAN-EFE) -- The opposition group Nicaraguan Democratic Force (FDN) today reported several military actions in northern Nicaragua, and claimed it had downed two planes. Meanwhile, the Honduran Army reported minor incidents with Sandinist troops. At the diplomatic level, Nicaraguan ambassador in Tegucigalpa, Edwin Zablah, demanded guarantees for his employees.

The rebel report states that FDN commandos downed two push and pull Sandinist planes, part of a fleet of 10 aircraft, when they attacked a group of 200 civilians trying to reach Honduras to seek refuge there. According to the FDN, a woman and a 14-year-old died as a result of the shelling. The rest of the attacking planes were forced to leave the zone because of heavy anti-aircraft fire. The FDN also reported that the "Dirinagen" and "Nicarao" task forces clashed with Sandinist battalions in the departments of Jinotega and Nueva Segovia last week, and inflicted many dead and wounded on the Sandinists. The FDN reported this in Tegucigalpa, after 3 weeks of total silence on the part of this organization with regard to its military activities.

The very unusual silence of this rebel group raised speculation regarding a possible mishap, or a very tight siege by the Sandinists on rebel positions. The FDN inactivity was also evident in its public relations, since journalists of various international news agencies who have requested permission to visit its camps in Nicaragua have been waiting for a positive reply for more than 3 weeks.

Meanwhile, the governments of Honduras and Nicaragua have continued exchanging protest notes over minor incidents between their respective forces, since there is no proof of major incidents, such as the alleged sinking of a Nicaraguan fishing boat by the Honduran Navy. The Honduran Army reported that several civilians were killed after stepping on land mines placed by the Sandinists in key areas of the border region, often in Honduran territory. The Honduran Army also reported that one of its officers and a soldier were wounded last week during a mortar attack on one of its vanguard positions by troops loyal to the Managua government. The attempt to take over the position failed.

In Tegucigalpa, while Nicaraguan Ambassador Edwin Zablah was attending a reception on the occasion of the inauguration of the permanent headquarters of the Honduran Christian Democratic Party, police arrested the envoy's chauffeur and bodyguard, alleging that they carried no identification papers. The incident prompted Ambassador Zablah to demand guarantees for the employees of the Nicaraguan Embassy in Honduras.

NICARAGUASOCIALIST AMBASSADORS REITERATE SOLIDARITY

PA161545 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 16 Nov 83

[Text] The socialist community has reiterated its unconditional solidarity with the Sandinist people's revolution in the event of any future emergency in Nicaragua. The ambassadors of the USSR, Czechoslovakia, and the GDR accredited to Managua -- German Shlyapnikov, Frantisek Koutecky, and Gerald Moeckel, respectively -- announced this at a conference on the socialist countries' contributions to peace, which was held yesterday at the Ruben Dario University Building.

The event, held to salute the 66th anniversary of the October Revolution, was addressed by the Soviet ambassador, who reviewed his people's struggle and asserted that the socialist community will not cease in its struggle for peace. Commenting on the installation of missiles in Europe, the diplomat stressed that should this occur, all talks on this issue will be suspended. According to him, the Reagan administration is trying to destroy mankind with its warmongering policy because it accords no importance to the peace treaties.

For his part, the Czechoslovak ambassador discussed his people's struggles. He added that the U.S. forces generate war, and that imperialism's advance is currently felt in Nicaragua, for the former wants to wipe out the Sandinist people's revolution. However, he continued, the enemies won't be able to fulfill their objective, because the people are determined to defend themselves.

The GDR ambassador said that the socialist countries will never yield to gringo imperialist threats, but will continue to fight for peace alongside those peoples who are struggling to achieve liberation.

The event was attended by delegates of the Nicaraguan Peace Committee, CONIPAZ; the Nicaraguan Association of Friendship with Socialist Countries, ANAPS; the National Union of Nicaraguan Students, UNEN; and the teaching staff of the Ruben Dario University Building.

STATION COMMENTS ON U.S. VISITOR'S STATEMENT

PA160002 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 15 Nov 83

["Beyond the News Reports" feature]

[Excerpts] Recently (Margie Hendrickson), U.S. Democratic Senator for Washington state, [title as heard] said after visiting our country that she had had the opportunity to see a new society in Nicaragua developing through the joint efforts of the people and the government. These are sincere words of a true democrat who, without prejudice, praises our revolutionary process. The formula she uses is correct. In Nicaragua, a new society is emerging through the joint efforts of the people and the government.

This is what puzzles some people who were used to the system of class privileges under the previous regime. The truth is that class privileges have already disappeared in our country. Of course, we know that we still have not attained a society without exploitation and misery. Unfortunately there are still barefoot children, homeless people, and poverty in our country.

However, efforts to overcome underdevelopment, social injustice, and exploitation, despite constant attacks and economic boycotts, are enormous and worthy of merit. Possibly in no other Central American or Caribbean country, with the sole exception of Cuba, or the rest of the continent has so much progress been made in such a short time to overcome the social discrimination and economic backwardness we inherited, not only from Somozism, but also from colonialism. We could even say that Somozism was only the result of the patriarchal and colonial system we labored under for many years. The revolution put an end to all of this. We are now building a new society, little by little, in which everything is new, where there will be no exploited poor class or exploiting rich class.

This is Christianity -- if they want to call it that -- and Sandinism. This is why those who long for the privileges of the past hate the revolution. They long for a past that will never return, despite the temper tantrums of those who dream of making Managua another Miami and Nicaragua a Yankee protectorate, as in the days of the Somozist dynasty. The Nicaraguan people -- revolutionary and Sandinist -- will never allow a repetition of this infamy and ignominy.

ORTEGA, BISHOP INTERVIEWED ON CHURCH-STATE ISSUES

PA100457 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 9 Nov 83

[Special program with Commander Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, and Bishop Pablo Antonio Vega, president of the Episcopal Conference, following a meeting this morning between the two organizations -- recorded]

[Excerpts] [Ortega] We believe that it was worthwhile to make an effort, so that the press and the radio might -- instead of creating a climate of confrontation -- create a climate that will strengthen peace and avoid opening the way for those who want to attack the Nicaraguan people. We have already held a number of meetings with the Episcopal Conference and we hope to call such meetings more often.

[Unidentified reporter] [Words indistinct] full religious freedom in the country?

[Ortega] The meeting was not called for that purpose, but rather to discuss general topics and some very specific problems. The revolution has always been faithful to its stated intention to show respect at all times for the religious beliefs and practices of the Nicaraguan people. There has been, still is, and always will be respect for the religious beliefs and practices of Nicaraguans.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] some abuse by the police and some other groups. Were these issues raised during the meeting?

[Ortega] Some cases of possible abuse were mentioned, including several instances when arrests were made which they considered unjustified. We asked them to provide details on such cases so that we may take action.

[Reporter] Monsignor Pablo Antonio Vega, we would like to know the results of the meeting.

[Vega] We believe it was something we had actually been searching for, a true exchange on the problems affecting the state -- the question of aggression, and others raised by the Church concerning some provocations which have had an impact on the people's faith.

[Reporter] Will there be other meetings?

[Vega] Yes. This was a preliminary meeting to find ways of renewing and establishing channels for dialogue and to provide additional context for an exchange of views on difficulties and problems that might arise in the future. This process will be carried out through written communication, and should allow all sides to remain aware of what is happening, more specifically [words indistinct].

[Reporter] What is your overall impression of the talks?

[Vega] I believe that they are most positive. The initial exchange was more than enough to confirm this.

[Reporter] How would you describe the attitude of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction in this dialogue with the bishop?

[Vega] Very frank. They are aware of the problems we face. He [Ortega] was quite willing to listen to the problems we raised.

[Reporter] There have been reports in the press concerning provocations by certain groups within the government and the mass organizations; it has also been said that attitudes adopted by a number of priests have led to a climate of tension. What is your attitude toward this? Will any changes be made to avoid further problems with these priests?

[Vega] One of the issues raised during the meeting with Commander Ortega was the question of certain priests who have -- perhaps unwillingly -- created some difficulties. These incidents will be studied and the proper action will be taken by the appropriate authorities. In the case of major incidents, these steps will be taken by the Episcopal Conference.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] in which Msgr Miguel Obando y Bravo (?claimed) that churches were being burned in Nicaragua [words indistinct].

[Vega] I am not familiar with the exact statement you claim he might have made about the burning of churches. We have information that he revealed and criticized acts of violence against churches, but not to the extreme of saying they had been burned. Therefore, because of lack of adequate information on his exact statement, I cannot make any comment.

[Reporter] Who was the aggressor in the actions to which your information refers?

[Vega] There has been some confusion on this issue from the outset. Therefore, I cannot give you an answer as to [words indistinct].

[Reporter] (?You) have declared that the Patriotic Military Service in Nicaragua was established to impose an ideology. What understanding was reached with the government junta on this subject?

[Vega] We have not made any allegations. We have frankly said that when military service is used for something else, such service ceases to be an instrument for the country's defense. That is the duty of all, not merely of a specific group.

[Reporter] Let's go back to the important issue of the Patriotic Military Service. What will happen to those priests who use the pulpit to play politics? Has the Episcopal Conference any stand on this?

[Vega] That is one of the things that we agreed to discuss with the media, to observe [words indistinct] so that everyone may stay within the bounds of his mission.

PROTEST SENT TO HONDURAS ON 'ILLEGAL DETENTION'

PA161450 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 16 Nov 83

[Text] Nicaragua protested the illegal detention of two of its diplomats [as heard] in Honduras in a note sent yesterday to the UN Security Council. The protest note, which was sent by Deputy Foreign Minister Nora Astorga, states that Humberto Chavez and Rodrigo Castillo were detained by Honduran authorities while waiting for the Nicaraguan ambassador to Honduras to leave an event held to inaugurate the Christian Democratic Party's new offices. Later, the two Nicaraguan diplomats were subjected to psychological pressures and mistreatment. According to the note, this points to the gravity of these incidents, since the two detainees are entitled to diplomatic immunity.

The Nicaraguan Government expresses its justifiable concern over the safety of all its personnel, since this is not the first time that the Honduran authorities, violating the most elemental diplomatic norms, have detained and mistreated members of the Nicaraguan mission in Honduras, the deputy foreign minister stresses in the note. For this reason, the Nicaraguan Government demands an explanation from the Government of Honduras. It also demands that those responsible be punished, and that guarantees be given to ensure that similar incidents do not occur in the future.

RAMIREZ DISCUSSES AID TO AREA WITH SELA OFFICIAL

PA161632 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] Government Junta member Sergio Ramirez Mercado met today with Sebastian Allegrett, the permanent secretary of the Latin American Economic System, SELA, to discuss the Committee for the Support of Economic and Social Development in Central America created by that organization. The meeting was held in Government House in the afternoon. Deputy Foreign Minister Companera Nora Astorga attended the meeting. Allegrett said that the meetings with leading officials of the revolutionary government will focus on the Action Committee for the Reconstruction of Nicaragua. He will meet with Edmundo Jarquin, minister-director of the International Reconstruction Fund, FIR, and with Bernardo Chamorro, deputy foreign trade minister. Allegrett reported to Ramirez on the upcoming SELA meeting, which will be held in Quito, Ecuador 9-14 January 1984. Our country will play an active role in that meeting.

SELA Secretary Departs

PA160413 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] SELA Permanent Secretary Sebastian Allegrett today reiterated SELA's support for the national reconstruction programs in the face of all forms of U.S. intervention. During his 2-day visit, Allegrett met with Nicaraguan Government officials to outline initiatives in the field of economic cooperation. The SELA official, who returned home today, announced the creation of a Committee for the Economic and Social Development of Central America which will help channel international and mutual aid resources. Allegrett said that his visit to Nicaragua had been very positive. He also indicated that SELA will make efforts to increase Latin American solidarity with the strife-torn Central American region.

RAMIREZ COMMENTS ON APPROVAL OF UN RESOLUTION

PA130437 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 12 Nov 83

[Excerpt] Sergio Ramirez Mercado, member of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, described the UN General Assembly's approval of the resolution on Central America as a political-diplomatic victory. During an exclusive interview for Extra Newscast, Ramirez Mercado said that the resolution condemning the foreign aggressions suffered by Nicaragua gives moral support to the struggle of the Nicaraguan people who are seeking a peaceful solution to the Central American conflict. The following are statements by Sergio Ramirez Mercado.

[Begin recording] Once again it is a victory for the Nicaraguan revolution. We presented that resolution, and from the very beginning we believed that the support of the countries of the world would be with us, and it was. This is another political battle that our revolution has won. The resolution was approved by consensus. Not even the U.S. delegation could vote against it.

Of the various points included in the resolution, the most important is that it clearly states that there is an aggression against our homeland and that this aggression is coming from abroad. It is very important that the world be aware of this and admit that it is an aggression from abroad. It also provides moral support for our people in this hard struggle we are waging against foreign aggression. [end recording]

MEXICAN SENATOR CITED ON OAS INEFFECTIVENESS

PA161615 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 MGT 16 Nov 83

[Text] Mexico City -- Alejandro Orfila's resignation as secretary general of the OAS clearly demonstrates the degree of inoperativeness reached by that organization because of the excesses committed by the U.S. Government as a member of the OAS. This opinion was expressed by Mexican Senator Celso Humberto Delgado. He has pointed to the urgent need to restructure this inter-American organization, which is being torn apart by struggles among the member countries, while remaining unable to make any effective contribution to the socioeconomic progress of these countries or to the achievement of peace in the hemisphere.

While the United Nations has expressed its frank support for the Contadora Group's efforts for peace in Central America, the OAS has been plunged into an acute crisis marked by opposing interests because of the presence of the United States. This situation is reflected in Mr Orfila's resignation, the Mexican senator said in conclusion.

PSC PROPOSES 'NATIONAL RECONCILIATION' PLAN

PA140309 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1944 GMT 13 Nov 83

[Text] Managua, 13 Nov (DPA) -- The opposing Nicaraguan Social Christian Party, PSC, today published a proposal for a "national reconciliation" to be guaranteed by the Contadora Group and other international organizations as a means of attaining "the institutionalization of democracy."

The plan, which still has not elicited any response from the political parties, the opposition Nicaraguan Democratic Coordinating Board, or the Revolutionary Patriotic Front, FPR, contains the following points:

1. All sectors in the country would be called to a dialogue to reach agreement on national reconciliation under international control and vigilance so that, under that control and vigilance which will be exerted throughout the dialogue and the later implementation of agreements, the necessary infrastructure would be created to achieve the institutionalization of democracy, culminating in the free exercise of the Nicaraguan people's right to choose their leaders. The participating sectors would be: the government, the political parties, the labor federations, the business sectors, the Catholic Church, the Protestant churches, and other interested Nicaraguan groups.

2. The agreement should contain the following basic items:

A. The countries that make up the so-called Contadora Group should be granted initial arbitration and guarantor powers. The group should also have qualified observers with a voice in the following international organizations: the Christian Democratic International, the Socialist International, the Liberal International, the Democratic International, and the OAS.

B. Foreign troops and military observers should be withdrawn.

C. Basic guarantees would be: elimination of the emergency law and immediate enforcement of freedom of the press and free association, movement, and circulation, as well as religious liberty, habeas corpus, and respect for human right.

D. Equal opportunity for all political parties and labor federations to circulate and organize throughout the country, as well as to use the communications media effectively.

E. Elimination of party control of the compulsory military service and of the Army. This includes a restructuring of these organizations and the maximum reduction possible.

F. An ample amnesty for political prisoners.

G. Revision of the political parties law and approval of a provisional electoral law for the realization on a short-term basis of general, free, and secret elections for a constituent assembly and municipalities (November 1984). All this would entail technical assistance from the Contadora countries and/or the OAS.

H. The constituent assembly would be installed 1 month after the elections. Ten days after the assembly is installed, it will elect a provisional junta of the government which will have a 2-year tenure and will be made up of five persons of established moral integrity who represent the nation.

I. At the appropriate time, and according to the new constitution, the Nicaraguan people will be called to general elections to choose executive and legislative authorities who will replace the members of the provisional junta of the government at the end of their terms.

The plan stresses finally: "We believe it is the Contadora Group's responsibility to attain the creation of a climate that allows the realization of the proposed dialogue, taking into consideration all the domestic and foreign factors involved in the Nicaraguan problem."

Communists, Socialists Reject Plan

PA150306 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 14 Nov 83

[Text] Leaders of the country's progressive parties have described the proposal made by the Social Christian Party [PSC] -- which calls for a national dialogue under international supervision -- as an attempt to undermine our national sovereignty. In remarks to journalists, Benigno Sanchez Salgado, a member of the Nicaraguan Socialist Party's Political Commission, stated that the Social Christian proposal is arrogant, disrespectful, and a violation of the law on order and public security. The socialist leader used the term subversive in reference to the PSC request that the government repeal the national emergency law. Meanwhile, Eli Altamirano, secretary general of the Nicaraguan Communist Party, pointed out that the PSC plan is a form of interference, similar to the proposal made by U.S. envoy Richard Stone.

PLI Leader Criticizes Proposal

PA170207 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 16 Nov 83

[Text] Dr Rodolfo Robelo Herrera, top leader of the PLI [Independent Liberal Party], has expressed his opposition to the Social Christian Party's document, but he explained that this was his personal opinion as the PLI has not stated its viewpoint on the proposal. Nevertheless, he said that his statement is inspired by the PLI ideals. He also stated that the unity of all Nicaraguans is necessary at this moment, and this should be accomplished with those who advocate patriotic ideals and respect our sovereignty. Those who betray the national dignity are definitely assuming unacceptable positions for the much desired unity of all Nicaraguans. He said in conclusion that our country must recognize the true dimension of the actions toward peace being carried out by other nations. However, this support must never be tied to the peace in our region or to the surrender of our self-determination and national sovereignty.

CPDH REPORTS ON MISSING PERSONS, HUMAN RIGHTS

PA132243 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1606 GMT 13 Nov 83

[Text] Managua, 13 Nov (ACAN-EFE) -- In its October report, the Nicaraguan Permanent Human Rights Commission (CPDH), a nongovernment organization, questioned the Nicaraguan authorities regarding the whereabouts of eight persons who were allegedly arrested in various parts of the country.

The CPDH includes in its report testimonies by the families of Ramon Collado Mendoza, Tomas Burgalin Tercero, Carlos Maradiaga Baldizon, and Martin Estrada Utrecho asking the whereabouts of these persons. The private organization also asks the government for information on the whereabouts of Jose Corea Toval, Oscar Bermudez Garcia, Jose Diaz Ibarra, and Luis Enrique Morales Lacay. The report also includes charges of three violations of union rights of members of the dissident Nicaraguan Workers Federation (CTN).

In its report, the CPDH also cites what it describes as "violations" of the political and religious rights of several persons along with the list of the eight "special cases." The CPDH states that the charges presented "are true to the best of our knowledge and understanding and are supported by properly signed charges and testimonies."

ARDE TROOPS REPORTED DESERTING, SELLING ARMS

PA101857 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 10 Nov 83

[Text] San Jose, Costa Rica -- Some 600 counterrevolutionaries from the self-styled ARDE [Democratic Revolutionary Alliance] have deserted in recent weeks and are selling their rifles and other equipment, Costa Rican police sources have said.

The newspaper LA NACION, declaring that desertions from the ranks of the counterrevolutionaries led by traitor Eden Pastora have increased as a result of internal struggles, notes the possibility that some members of the Costa Rican rural guard are involved in the sale of the deserters' weapons. Many of the deserters have strayed throughout Costa Rica and have sold their weapons -- including AK rifles, pistols, grenades, LAW rocket launchers, and all kinds of ammunition -- to various people, according to the Costa Rican newspaper's unofficial report.

ARDE REPORTS ATTACK ON BARGE CARRYING SOLDIERS

PA151630 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 0000 GMT 15 Nov 83

[War Bulletin No 96, issued by the General Command of the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, ARDE, Armed Forces, in "the Nicaraguan mountains," on 14 November 1983]

[Text] The General Command of the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, ARDE, Armed Forces reports to the people of Nicaragua and the world:

1. At 1430 on 11 November, the Domingo Antonio Gutierrez Giron column from the Barba area, at the mouth of the Poco Sol River, ambushed a barge on which many soldiers of the occupation army were traveling. The attack was carried out with RPG-7 rocket launchers, M-79 grenade launchers, .30 cal machineguns, and rifles. As a result of this lightning attack, the barge was set aflame, thereby rendering it useless. The number of enemy casualties is unknown.

2. At the same time, the command in La Pintada began to attack us. The ARDE forces responded with mortar fire, and silenced the enemy.

3. With these military operations in the past few days, our forces, which defend the national sovereignty, consolidate their control and reaffirm their faith in struggling until they achieve a free and democratic fatherland.

Death to the Cuban and foreign invader! Without totalitarianism, or a return to the past!

[Dated] Nicaraguan mountains, 14 November 1983

[Signed] General Command of the ARDE Armed Forces

FDN COMMUNIQUE ON LATEST CLASHES, CASUALTIES

PA160456 San Pedro Sula LA PRENSA in Spanish 15 Nov 83 p 11

[Communique issued by the Communications Section of the Nicaraguan Democratic Force, FDN, Press Office; dated 14 November 1983]

[Text] We report that on Wednesday, 9 November, FDN combat groups led by Commander "Benny," of the Dirianguen task force, encountered Sandinist troops from the 364th Brigade in the area known as La Bodega, north of Jinotega. The armed peasants of the Dirianguen task force, led by Commander Mike Lima, defeated the enemy troops, inflicted many casualties on them, and captured weapons and military equipment.

Two days later -- Friday, 11 November -- these same rebel forces again engaged the members of the Sandinist 365th Brigade. On that occasion, the fighting took place in El Jiquelite, north of Jinotega. Following 4 hours of resistance, the Sandinist troops withdrew in complete disarray throughout the entire area. Reports from peasants living in the zone reveal that the Sandino-communists retreated with a normal amount of dead and wounded.

Meanwhile, on 5 November, a combat group from the Nicarao task force attacked a Sandinist contingent based in Apamiguel, near Mozonte in Nueva Segovia Department. The Sandinist troops suffered a total of 25 casualties during the skirmish and lost weapons and other war supplies. On the same day, not far from Apamiguel, the FDN combat group -- led by Commander Ersie -- attacked the Sandinist troops once more, inflicting eight casualties, including three dead. Some days later, on 9 November, commander Ersie was again involved in combat, this time in Las Cruces, only 12 km north of Ocotal, capital of Nueva Segovia Department. Residents of the town who were forced to "cooperate" with the Sandinists asserted that the government troops suffered a considerable number of casualties.

Citizens who live and travel between Jalapa, Santa Clara, and Ocotal, in Nueva Segovia Department, are hereby informed that the Sandinist Army, under orders from the Cuban internationalists, has mined several highways and roads. Most of the anti-personnel mines have been placed between Oroquieta and El Arrayan. Specialized teams of FDN commandos have thus far unearthed and defused more than 500 mines. We warn the people of the danger they are facing. Likewise, we issue a call to the world and to international human rights organizations to take note of this action and to strongly condemn the Marxist-Sandinist government for its obvious disregard for human life.

ANDROPOV GREETED ON ANNIVERSARY OF REVOLUTION

For the text of greetings messages from Daniel Ortega Saavedra, coordinator of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, and from Bayardo Arce Castana, coordinator of the FLEN Political Commission, to Yuriy Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, as carried by Moscow PRAVDA in Russian on the occasion of the 66th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution, see the Great October Socialist Revolution section of the 15 November Soviet Union DAILY REPORT.

CASTRO'S MESSAGE COMMEMORATING OCTOBER REVOLUTION

For the text of President Fidel Castro's message to Yuriy Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and Nikolay Tikhonov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, on the occasion of the 66th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution, as carried by PRAVDA, see the Great October Socialist Revolution section of the 15 November Soviet Union DAILY REPORT.

FIDEL, RAUL RECEIVE TWO WOUNDED COLLABORATORS

FL170154 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 17 Nov 83

[Text] Late this afternoon, the two Cuban collaborators wounded in Grenada, who were hospitalized in Puerto Rico arrived in the fatherland. Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba and president of the Councils of State and Ministers, and Army General Raul Castro, second secretary and FAR minister, went to the airport to receive (Mario Martin Manduca) and (?Alberto Chatagoín Mallín), who were taken to a hospital in Puerto Rico after being wounded in combat in Grenada. The internationalists were accompanied by Esmildo Gutierrez, secretary general of the Cuban Red Cross. Fidel and Raul embraced the comrades at the foot of the ramp of the IL-62 airplane which brought them to the fatherland.

VICE PRESIDENT RODRIGUEZ ON U.S. FOREIGN POLICY

PM161742 Madrid MUNDO OBRERO in Spanish 11-17 Nov 83 pp 23-25

[Interview with Cuban Vice President Carlos Rafael Rodriguez by APIA news agency correspondents George Hodel and Gabriele Battaglia in Havana -- no date given]

[Excerpt] Question: If no agreement is reached in the Geneva negotiations, the Reagan administration will deploy 572 Pershing II nuclear systems and missiles in December. That would change the strategic nuclear correlation worldwide and create again the danger of a crisis such as the 1962 missiles crisis.

Answer: Ronald Reagan's current policy takes as its basis the ideology of the McCarthy era, which claims to see covert activities by communism everywhere. This is how Reagan treats Nicaragua, Cuba, and also the Soviet Union. However, Reagan realizes that his aggressive policy could bring him unfavorable consequences in the next election and that he will not win if the Americans increasingly feel that war is approaching... In the 1962 crisis fewer than 50 missiles were deployed, and today there are 572. The Soviet Union is right not to allow that deployment and to demand a certain nuclear parity. Cuba supports the stance of the Soviet Union and of the pacifist movements of Europe and the United States. If the Soviet Union does not succeed in preventing the deployment of the medium-range missiles in December, it must adopt appropriate measures in the politico-military field.

Question: Would that mean that the USSR will deploy its medium-range nuclear missiles in Cuba as Western news media said?

Answer: So far there is no statement, either by ourselves or by the USSR, mentioning such an option. The USSR has stated only that it will not leave unanswered the deployment of the missiles in Europe, that it will adopt the necessary measures to counter this venture. The rest is pure speculation.

Question: What is Cuba's specific stance in this context?

Answer: It is absurd to ask the USSR to withdraw all its nuclear missiles while the 162 nuclear systems of France and Britain are not taken into account. Therefore we support the Soviet stance on reducing the nuclear arsenal. They are prepared to reduce their medium-range missiles to the level of 162 nuclear systems, as well as to withdraw their offensive nuclear attack forces such as bombs [as published] and submarines. We must do everything possible to avert the deployment of the missiles in Europe in December.

Question: Is there not also, under the Reagan administration's idea of increasing its nuclear forces, the intention of thus achieving greater means of intervening with its Rapid Deployment Forces in all areas of conflict, such as the Middle East, Central America, and South America, in order to defend its interests better?

Answer: Yes, with his concept of a global policy, Reagan is supporting the most reactionary forces in the world with the aim of securing U.S. hegemony in the Third World. This is what the United States is doing in Nicaragua, when it supports the counterrevolutionaries who are killing the Nicaraguan people, and when it supports the people who are killing the Palestinians in Lebanon. The conflict in Central America is also part of this. The fact that somebody is attempting to free himself from U.S. domination means for Reagan that the USSR and socialism will establish themselves. And according to the United States, the peoples' liberation is a danger to its security. With this pretext, President Reagan is attempting to convince his people of the need for an intervention.

Question: What is the significance, in this context, of the visits by Stone and Kissinger, who say that they are seeking a political solution?

Answer: The whole of U.S. policy is directed against the negotiations. With the Kissinger commission, Reagan is attempting to have it believed that there is a desire for negotiations on his part, but at the same time it is seeking greater military assistance for the El Salvador Government and Honduras, reactivating the Central American Defense Council as a reactionary force, and attempting in Central America to destroy the incumbent government of Nicaragua.

Question: And the prospects for the Contadora group?

Answer: The Reagan administration has stated that it supports this initiative, but it is making no reply to the specific proposals of the group, which drew up a list of 20 points for the resolution of the conflict in Central America. We support the Sandinistas' 6-point plan, in which they express their desire to negotiate. After 26 July, Reagan stated that Fidel's speech had points which must be considered, but 3 days later he returned to his stance. Only the form changed, since Reagan needs to convince his people that he is not a warmonger, but every step he takes is seeking a military solution. The Big Pine-2 maneuvers are part of the preparation of a blockade against Nicaragua, as well as the assistance for the Somozist counter-revolutionaries of the Nicaragua Democratic Front in Honduras and of the Revolutionary Democratic Alliance in the south.

Question: What is your exact stance on the Reagan administration's new steps, such as the setting up of Radio Marti? Does this indicate a more aggressive stance toward Cuba?

Answer: These developments are not new. They are signs which have become increasingly clear since 1980. Of course, we do not want a confrontation with the United States; we seek a policy of negotiation with it. But, being realistic, we are threatened and therefore we are preparing ourselves. If the United States finds us weak, then it will invade us immediately. But if we are prepared to make a response, it will have to think twice...because the U.S. people will not forgive Reagan if he attempts to make a second Vietnam out of Cuba, if he sends his "boys" to defend another U.S. flag in Central America. Over the last two years we have doubled our defense capability and have set up a system of territorial militias, training 500,000 people. We made another appeal to the people recently, especially women. The result was that 1.6 million people joined the reserve militias. Unfortunately, we only had guns for half-a-million of them, but we are attempting to secure more arms from other countries. As Fidel said, we will respond to any attack, whether by air or by sea. We know that we are weaker than the Americans, and of course we would not attempt to fight them on their terms. We are a people of some 10 million. We have a very well organized Army, but militarily we can do nothing against them. We are prepared to lose the first part of the battle, but afterward a widespread people's war of national resistance will begin, and the United States will lose that war, because no Army can defeat an entire people's military resistance. They would have to contend with over 9 million people struggling for the defense of their own country, and no Army is capable of withstanding that.

COMMENTARY VIEWS ELECTION TO IAEA BOARD

PA170311 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 16 Nov 83

[Station commentary by Jose Leandro Rodriguez]

[Text] Cuba's recent election to the board of governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] is not just a demonstration of the prestige that our country has achieved in the international sphere but also in the peaceful use of nuclear energy. Cuba obtained 79 votes, 42 more than needed to acquire such responsibility. This result was achieved despite maneuvers and pressures by Cuba's enemies among the participating delegations in the 27th general conference of the IAEA. During the conference the Cuban representative harshly criticized the dangerous arms race.

The board of governors to which Cuba now belongs has the authority to approve all agreements on safeguards, important programs, and safety regulations and to examine other topics such as the admission of new members and the budget.

The points that the Latin American countries group took into account to put forward Cuba's candidacy were the progress achieved in nuclear technology and geographic representation. Cuba has been a member of the IAEA since 1957, although until the triumph of the revolution Cuba's was just a vote and a voice the United States used to support and impose its own views. At that time the country had just a few private laboratories in which very limited technology was used. The most serious proposal on the use of nuclear energy in Cuba was formulated by young lawyer Fidel Castro in "History Will Absolve Me," his statement during the trial on the Moncada events. Thirty years ago, on 16 October 1953, Fidel Castro said: The possibilities of bringing electric power to the last corner of the country are today greater than ever since the application of nuclear energy in that industrial field is already a reality. This will greatly reduce its production cost.

That aspiration could only begin to be achieved in 1959, when the main participant in the attack on the Moncada barracks and the victorious insurrectional struggle installed revolutionary power in Cuba.

After almost 2 decades of studies and analyses on how to apply nuclear energy toward scientific and economic objectives, the Cuban Atomic Energy Commission was created in 1979. This enabled us to undertake the construction of the first nuclear power plant, which is being built in Cienfuegos Province with the cooperation of the Soviet Union. In its first phase it will have two pressurized light water reactors capable of producing 440 megawatts each. There are also cooperation plans and agreements, mainly with the socialist countries, which have enabled Cuba to train skilled personnel in such specialties as nuclear electronics and physics, nuclear power plants, automation of thermal energy processes, automated systems, and others.

In 1976 Cuba became a member of the Unified Institute of Nuclear Research in (Disna), Soviet Union. In 1982 the State Council promulgated Decree-Law No 56 which regulates the peaceful use of nuclear power in Cuba. In addition to the great effort that the revolutionary government is making to promote the country's nuclear energy development, it is working intensely at the international level so that the atom will truly be a factor of well-being and progress for humankind, especially for the developing countries.

Cuba has actively and permanently participated in both of CEMA's international atomic energy agency meetings and the UN Development Program and within the Nonaligned Movement. It has always expressed support for cooperation and the peaceful use of nuclear power. Consistent with these principles, since 1980 Cuba has subjected its nuclear installations, under construction, to safeguards in accordance with agreements signed with the IAEA. All of this explains the results of the recent vote permitting Cuba to represent Latin America on the IAEA board of governors.

ECLA OFFICIAL ARRIVES FOR REGIONAL MEETING

FL162352 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 16 Nov 83

[Text] Enrique Iglesias, executive secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America [ECLA], has arrived in Cuba to participate in the second Latin American regional planning meeting, which begins today in the Palace of Conventions. This meeting, which will last until 21 November, is preliminary to the World Preparation Conference, which will take place in Mexico City in '84. Enrique Iglesias was welcomed at the airport by Jose Fernandez De Cossio, vice president of the State Committee for Economic Cooperation; Pedro Morales, director for international economic organizations of the same state committee; and Jorge Aldereguia, director general of the Institute of International Health Development of the Ministry of Public Health.

'OUR AMERICA' SEES CHILEAN CRISIS BECOMING WORSE

PA141949 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 14 Nov 83

["Our America" commentary]

[Excerpts] Shortly after the visit to Chile by three officials from the U.S. State Department, General Augusto Pinochet, chief of the Chilean fascist regime, said he will not develop a dialogue with the opposing forces. In his usual authoritarian tone, Pinochet said the path outlined by the regime will not be altered, whether or not this suits some men who claim to be members of a former political party. This was an allusion to the leaders of the Democratic Alliance, a center-right opposition coalition that has made insistent attempts to establish talks with the military dictatorship in an effort to find paths for a peaceful transition to a democratic system of government.

The officials from the U.S. State Department who visited Chile met there with authorities of Augusto Pinochet's regime, as well as with personalities from the opposition. The talks took place 2 months after the Democratic Alliance announced that it was breaking off the dialogue in response to the Chilean dictatorship's refusal to shorten the deadlines established for turning over power.

Meanwhile, economic problems in Chile continue to worsen. The Chilean institution called Victor Academy of Social Studies [Academia Victor de Estudios Sociales] recently issued a report in which it stated that the disaster is deepening with the persistent unemployment that now surpasses 30 percent of the work force, the 14 percent drop in purchasing power, and a new decline in the production of goods. The Chilean newspaper LA TERCERA DE LA HORA recently reported that the worst part of it is that in Chile one of the worst possible phenomena is taking place, that of recession with inflation under conditions in which the citizens are totally defenseless. The newspaper stressed the contrast between the indifference on the part of the authorities toward the plight of the great majorities, and the solicitude with which the regime came to the rescue of the financial oligarchy, which is also in crisis. A dozen Chilean private banks that were on the verge of bankruptcy received \$2 billion this year from the state. The outlook is not very promising for the Chilean fascist dictatorship. This grave economic situation that Pinochet's regime is facing joins another political reality that becomes clearer every day: The opposition forces are continuing to strengthen and radicalize their positions, and proof of this is the increasing combativeness of the protest campaigns.

PANAMA'S ORTEGA URGED TO DENOUNCE U.S. ACTIONS

PA131910 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 12 Nov 83

[Text] The Panamanian-Cuban Friendship Institute has exhorted the Panamanian Foreign Ministry to become the spokesman for the aspirations of that people, and to demand a halt to U.S. interference in the internal affairs of Latin America. In a note addressed to Panamanian Foreign Minister Oyden Ortega, the institute expressed its concern over the Grenada incidents, saying they constitute an act of barbarism that again shows the openly hostile attitude of Yankee imperialism against the peoples defending their integrity and independence. The note said that what happened in that small Caribbean nation would be seen as a sign and a warning regarding the serious menace hanging over the area, which is threatened by the warmongering attitude of the U.S. Government. It added that it is necessary for Panama to officially condemn the U.S. aggression against Grenada so that such a pronouncement may alert U.S. President Ronald Reagan about the course of his irresponsible actions.

CARLOS RODRIGUEZ RECEIVES BOLIVIAN DELEGATION

FL161217 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 16 Nov 83

[Text] Carlos Rafael Rodríguez, member of the party Politburo and vice president of the councils of state and ministers, received a delegation of Bolivian senators and deputies which is visiting our country on invitation of the National Assembly of the People's Government. There was a wide exchange of opinions during the meeting. Special attention was given to the situation on our continent, the danger hanging over the peoples of Central America and, especially, those of El Salvador and Nicaragua, and the consequences of the U.S. invasion of Grenada. Carlos Rafael Rodríguez recalled his trip to Bolivia last year as chief of the Cuban delegation that attended the inauguration ceremony of the present government. On that occasion, when he addressed the Bolivian Senate, he answered many questions asked by our distinguished visitors on Cuba's position on the principles of international politics and on Cuban economic and social development.

Activities of Congressmen Reported

FL162037 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 16 Nov 83

[Text] Jose Ramon Fernandez, member of the Central Committee, vice president of the council of ministers and education minister, met with the Bolivian congressional delegation. During the cordial meeting, Fernandez gave them a detailed explanation on Cuba's educational sector from the victory of the revolution to current times and he answered numerous questions. The delegation was accompanied by (Omelio Lopez), deputy chief of the Department of International Relations of the National Assembly of the People's Government.

The Bolivian congressmen, who are visiting Cuba at the invitation of the National Assembly of the People's Government, were met in Havana Province by Pedro Chavez Gonzalez, president of the People's Government in that province. Jorge Lezcane, member of the Central Committee and vice president of the National Assembly of the People's Government, was also in attendance. Chavez Gonzalez gave the Bolivian delegation a briefing on Havana Province and on the functioning of the organizations of the People's Government. The visitors then visited the areas that are being developed in the municipality of Santa Cruz del Norte, where they observed the progress that has been made in the economic and social fields in this territory. Finally, they visited the Santa Cruz Distillery complex, which manufactures the exquisite rum Havana (Crown).

BATISTA, MILITARY DELEGATION DEPART BELGRADE

FL112048 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1910 GMT 11 Nov 83

[Text] FAR Vice Minister Division General Sixto Batista has completed an official and friendly visit to Yugoslavia. Batista, alternate member of Cuba's Communist Party Politburo, was seen off at the Belgrade airport by the deputy chief of the General Staff of the Yugoslav Army, Colonel General Petar Gracanin, and Cuban Ambassador Aramis Fuentes.

Shortly before his departure, Sixto Batista spoke with a member of the presidium of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia, Petar Matic, and other high officials of that socialist European country.

During his stay in Yugoslavia, Sixto Batista had a busy program and examined with regime leaders the possibility of increasing the cooperative relationship between the armed forces of the two countries.

PELEGRIN TORRAS ON OFFICIAL VISIT TO VIETNAM

FL111730 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1520 GMT 11 Nov 83

[Text] Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach, today received Cuban Vice Minister of Foreign Relations Pelegrin Torras, who is visiting Vietnam.

During their talks, they exchanged opinions on the current international situation and especially the tensions in Central America and the Caribbean provoked by the U.S. intervention in Grenada and threats to Cuba, Nicaragua, and other peoples of the region.

Nguyen Co Thach reported on the state of relations with China and actions which impel Vietnam to achieve understanding and peace with that country.

He also explained the policy that is being developed in relation to Southeast Asian nations and the necessity of finding formulas to establish a dialogue within that group of countries and the Indochinese countries.

BARBADOSCOARD'S CHILDREN STRANDED, LACK DOCUMENTS

FL161739 Bridgeto BARBADOS ADVOCATE in English 11 Nov 83 p 1

[Excerpt] The three children of Grenada's former Deputy Prime Minister Bernard Coard -- Abiola, Neto, and Shola -- are stranded at the Grantly Adams International Airport. According to officials at the airport the children who arrived in the island since last Wednesday could very well be sent back to Grenada. They arrived with one-way tickets to Jamaica, but it was found that they could not make the connections because "certain important documents" were missing. As a result the three children have found themselves dependent upon the efforts of a Mrs Thomas to get them out of Barbados. She is believed to be a Jamaican travelling with them from Grenada to Jamaica.

GRENADAADVISORY COUNCIL SWORN IN, EMERGENCY LIFTED

FL161245 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 16 Nov 83

[Text] Members of Grenada's provisional government were sworn in yesterday to run the island's affairs until elections can be held some time next year. At the same time, Acting U.S. Ambassador Charles Gillespie announced that U.S. troops now on the island will be withdrawn no later than Christmas. Only five members of the nine-man Advisory Council were present for the swearing in ceremony yesterday. The remaining four members will be sworn in later.

Acting Chairman Nicholas Brathwaite said the Council will make every effort to bring about elections as soon as possible. He also said Grenada will need financial assistance to carry out rehabilitation programs and to restore facilities. Governor-General Sir Paul Scoon gave the oath of office to the Council that will rule the island for the next 6 months to 1 year. Sir Paul then announced his return to semi-private life.

The first act of the Advisory Council was to lift the state of emergency imposed after the October 25th invasion. No politicians belong to the Advisory Council, but a Council spokesman says political parties have not been banned. The chairman of the Council, Alister McIntyre, is currently a United Nations trade official and will take up his post later this month. The acting U.S. ambassador on Grenada said American troops will be out of Grenada certainly within the 60 days required by the U.S. Congress. He said they may pull out sooner, if the interim government requests it.

In another development, a ranking officer in the Caribbean Peace Force said that 36 foreigners had been invited to leave the island by Friday, because they are considered security risks. The military action on Grenada by the United States and six Caribbean nations drew comment in several speeches yesterday at the OAS General Assembly in Washington, D.C. Mexico's foreign minister condemned the invasion, calling it a violation of Grenada's territorial integrity. The head of the Brazilian delegation shared the Mexican representative's view. He said that Brazil cannot but deplore the use of force in Grenada.

The foreign minister of Jamaica, Dr Neville Galimore, defended his country's participation in the invasion force. He said it was an act of solidarity and fraternity with other Eastern Caribbean nations.

CANA on New Administration

FL161908 Bridgetown CANA in English 1843 GMT 16 Nov 83

[Text] St George's, Grenada, Nov 16, CANA -- Grenada's governor-general, Sir Paul Scoon, has lifted the state of emergency he imposed following last month's U.S.-led military intervention, and has turned over full political and legal powers to an interim government sworn in yesterday, an official said. Anthony Rushford, legal advisor to the new administration, told reporters the sole aspect of the state of emergency still in force was the provision allowing for the detention of persons deemed a threat to national security. Sir Paul assumed full administrative powers in Grenada as the sole constitutional authority on the island after the October 25 invasion which ousted an ultra-leftist military junta that had seized power in a bloody coup six days earlier.

The new administration, which has taken over these duties from Sir Paul, will run the government until elections are held next year to choose a government and return this island to parliamentary democracy after close to five years of revolutionary rule. Rushford said the governor-general had issued a proclamation, endorsing the validity of most of the laws in force up to October 19, the date when the People's Revolutionary Government (PRG) was overthrown, and Prime Minister Maurice Bishop assassinated. Some "peoples laws" (legislation passed by the PRG on decree) were revoked, said Rushford, including a controversial one which prohibited the publication of any newspaper, except the then state-owned FREE WEST INDIAN. Following the March 1979 coup that brought the PRG to power, the Grenada Constitution was suspended and the government ruled by decree.

Decision on Need for Army

FL162226 Bridgetown CANA in English 1957 GMT 16 Nov 83

[Excerpt] St George's, Grenada, Nov 16, CANA -- Grenada's new interim government will not take a decision on whether the country will continue to have a standing army but will leave the issue to the government to emerge after general elections. This was stated by Nicholas Brathwaite, the acting chairman of the caretaker government set up by the Governor-General Sir Paul Scoon to fill the vacuum following the downfall of the leftwing People's Revolutionary Government in a recent bloody coup. Mr Brathwaite told reporters it was his feeling that the government emerging after general elections, in most likely a year's time, would have to take the decision on the need for an army in the country.

Government Takes Prisoner Responsibility

FL161942 Bridgetown CANA in English 1912 GMT 16 Nov 83

[By Robert Block]

[Text] St George's, Grenada, Nov 16, CANA-REUTER -- A new law went into effect here today that gives full legal responsibility for all political and military prisoners to Grenada's caretaker government and provides some limited rights to the prisoners. Anthony Rushford, legal advisor to Grenada's interim government, said that the government, which was sworn in yesterday, was assuming "full responsibility for all detainees."

Previously, U.S. and Caribbean forces were placed in charge of prisoners they rounded up in their search for members of the People's Revolutionary Army (PRA). The PRA served former Prime Minister Maurice Bishop, who was killed in the bloody power struggle that paved the way for the U.S. and Caribbean forces invasion here three weeks ago. The U.S. troops were in charge of holding suspects in a makeshift detention camp that had housed 1,130 detainees just east of the capital. All remaining 148 prisoners at the camp, which is being dismantled, were released yesterday. At least 40 were sent to Richmond Hill Prison where they await formal charges by the Grenadian Government which could come in the next month, government spokesmen said.

U.S. spokesmen said that detention and interrogation of Grenadians by U.S. officials would continue but that all detainees would be held at the prison. Rushford, however, said that U.S. forces could only pick up suspects after being ordered to do so by the Advisory Council. He added that if the council ordered the detention of an individual, under the new law the prisoner would be entitled to legal representation before the council and later a special tribunal, to be set up soon, which would review the case.

Grenadian police still had the right to detain individuals on suspicion without a warrant but could only hold them for a maximum of three days, whereas before they could be held indefinitely, Rushford said. "This is still, under the circumstances, something of a police state, but before it was more of a free for all," Rushford said. "This (the new law) does not mean that everything is going to settle down and that no one will be picked up," he added.

In other developments, U.S. ambassador to Grenada, Charles Gillespie, today was to sign an agreement with the local government for the second half of a 700,000-dollar road repair project which will provide jobs for hundreds of unemployed Grenadians. Last week, the U.S. signed an agreement for a 145,000-dollar project to repair a six mile stretch of road near the capital and which employed 120 Grenadians, who can be seen laboring with picks and shovels on roads near the capital. The money is part of a three million-dollar grant package to the Grenadian Government from the U.S. Agency for International Development (AID).

Former RMC Members Still Detained

FL161649 Bridgetown CANA in English 1630 GMT 16 Nov 83

[Text] St George's, Grenada, Nov 16, (CANA) -- The new interim government in Grenada could take up to one month to decide what to do with persons detained for their part in the October 19 military coup in which Prime Minister Maurice Bishop was executed. This was disclosed by Nicholas Brathwaite, the acting chairman of the caretaker government, some members of which were sworn into office yesterday at the official residence of Governor-General Sir Paul Scoon.

Mr Brathwaite told reporters the question of taking decisions on people presently held in detention was very much a matter for the nine-member interim government, which is still to meet in full. "This is an important matter and it would need very careful consideration," he said, "so I would say as of now (that) within a month we could take decisions on those people who are detained."

Among those persons in captivity is Bernard Coard, the former hardline deputy prime minister, who is widely believed to have been the driving force behind efforts to unseat Mr Bishop. The list also included most of the 16 members of the Revolutionary Military Council of General Hudson Austin, which ran the country briefly until a U.S.-led invasion of Grenada, as well as ex-Information and National Mobilization Minister Selwyn Strachan.

Legal advisor to the interim government, Anthony Rushford, said that a tribunal would shortly be named to review the cases of those persons held in detention. Mr Rushford stated that the chief justice of Grenada, Archibald Need, has been mandated to appoint the members to serve on this tribunal, to be headed by a legally qualified person. It would be set up as soon as the chief justice makes his selection and obtains the consensus of those persons requested to serve on the body, he added.

COARD SAYS REVOLUTION JUST 'INTERRUPTED'

FL170016 Bridgetown CANA in English 2353 GMT 16 Nov 83

[By Trevor Yearwood]

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, Nov 16, CANA -- Grenada's former deputy prime minister, Bernard Coard, has described the unseating of the leftist New Jewel Movement (NJM) in St George's as just an interruption of the revolution the party started in 1979, his lawyer reported here today.

Commenting on talks he had with Coard at the maximum security Richmond Hill Prison, where Coard has been held since being captured by invading American forces, Lawyer Deighton Rawlins said: "He saw the events in Grenada as merely an interruption of the revolutionary process. He talked about revolutionary leaders like Marcus Garvey (of Jamaica) and Salvador Allende (of Chile) whose revolution still continued despite setbacks."

The NJM toppled Sir Eric Gairy's rightwing government in March 1979. It ran into trouble last October with feuding on the party's direction and leadership between hardline Marxists and moderates that triggered the resignation of Coard, Foreign Minister Unison Whiteman, Education Minister Jacqueline Creft and Housing Minister Norris Bain. Bishop, Creft, Whiteman, and Bain were executed on October 19, the same day the military took power, setting up a revolutionary council to run the Caribbean island. The takeover was short-lived as U.S. and Caribbean troops invaded the island six days later to restore order.

The Grenada-born lawyer, who is now a Barbadian citizen, rejected claims by U.S. officials that Coard might have masterminded the army takeover and the executions on a day Grenadians now call "Bloody Wednesday." "There is not one shred of evidence that Coard played any part in the massacre on Bloody Wednesday," the lawyer said, adding that in their talks, Coard insisted that he had stayed clear of politics after resigning from the government to give the lie to rumors that Bishop's assassination was being contemplated. Rawlins said he was instructed by Coard to contact one of two Jamaican lawyers to represent him if there was a trial. The names of the Jamaicans were not disclosed by Rawlins, who also said troops guarding the prison in Grenada had refused former U.S. Attorney General Ramsey Clarke permission to see the former deputy prime minister. "It appears that they regard Coard as a prisoner of war. They say he is being treated in accordance with the Geneva Convention, which does not allow for him to have legal advice," Rawlins remarked.

"They allowed me to see him as a friend and not a lawyer. Clarke made an attempt to see Coard and was prevented from doing so. I suppose he was met by the same hallowed remark about Coard being a prisoner of war." Rawlins, 43, said he was skeptical about Coard being brought to trial. "I do not think it will come to that," he said.

"There has been a lot of speculation that Coard was at one time running the country from his home, but there is not a shred of evidence to support this." Also detained is Coard's wife, Phyllis, former information secretary. Rawlins said she was pregnant and "should be released because of her condition."

ST CHRISTOPHER-NEVIS

NEVIS ISLAND ASSEMBLY HOLDS FIRST MEETING

FL101456 Bridgetown CANA in English 1440 GMT 10 Nov 83

[Text] Basseterre, St Kitts, Nov 10, CANA -- The Nevis Island Assembly, established under the new Independence Constitution of St Kitts and Nevis, is meeting this morning for the first time. The session of the assembly, which is responsible for running the affairs of the 36 square mile island, will be preceded by a military guard of honour ceremony to be inspected by prime minister of the twin-island state, Dr Kennedy Simmons and Nevis Premier Simeon Daniel.

The five elected members of the assembly, all members of the Nevis Reformation Party (NRP) will be sworn in. They are Daniel Ivor Stevens, minister of communications, works, and public utilities; Arthur Evelyn, minister of agriculture, housing and tourism; Uthral Swanston, and Levi Morton. There are also two nominated members Victor Martin and Rheuben Nisbett. The NRP is in a governing coalition in St Kitts and Nevis with the People's Action Movement of Dr Simmons. Daniel will address the assembly at today's session.

Elected Members Sworn In

FL111503 Bridgetown CANA in English 1436 GMT 11 Nov 83

[Text] Basseterre, St Kitts, Nov 11, (CANA) -- The St Kitts/Nevis Government plans a radio and television service for Nevis, Deputy Governor-General Weston Parris said yesterday in a speech at the opening of the Nevis Island Assembly. The Assembly was established under the new independence constitution of the twin-island state to run affairs in Nevis.

In his outline of government plans, Parris said plans were underway to place television sets in schools in Nevis to carry educational programmes. He said the government would be doing all it can to restore the 36 square mile island to its position as "Queen of the Caribbean."

Nevis Premier Simeon Daniel, leader of the Nevis Reformation Party (NRP) also addressed the inaugural session. He promised the government would do its best for Nevis. The new members of the assembly, whose five elected members are all members of the NRP, were sworn in yesterday. The NRP forms a governing coalition with the People's Action Movement of Prime Minister Dr Kennedy Simmons who was present at yesterday's session.

Magistrate Spencer Byron was elected president of the Assembly with local businessman Vicor Martin as deputy.

The following were sworn in yesterday:

Simeon Daniel, finance minister in the St Kitts-Nevis [words indistinct]. Ivor Stevens, minister of communication, works and public utilities in the Nevis National Assembly. Uriel Swanston, a nominated member in the National Assembly, parliamentary secretary in the Communications Ministry of the Nevis Assembly. Arthur Evelyn, minister of agriculture, lands, housing, labour, and tourism in the Nevis Assembly; Levi Morton, junior minister in the Premier's Ministry, Julian Nisbett, a Nevisian businessman-nominated Assembly member.